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CARTER HAS 'STARTED NEW ROUND IN NUCLEAR RACE'

LD301325 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 4, 25 Jan 80 pp 5-6 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Gudkov article: "Can Washington Be Trusted?"]

[Text] New York, 21 January--In January it was exactly 3 years since J. Carter's administration took the reins of power. Looking back at those years from a practical viewpoint rather than in terms of a jubilee, the results are worthy of keen attention. It is now being said and written that America has reached a "new watershed" in its history. And this is no exaggeration. The changes which have taken place in its political course in a short space of time are too significant. The contrast between the new administration's pledges and its actual deeds is too striking.

Three years ago J. Carter promised to "breathe new faith into the old dream" and take part in creating a "just world" on the principles of love for peace and genuine humanity. Disarmament, observance of high moral standards and the defense of human rights, in his words, were to become the basis for "new beginnings." Today Washington's foreign policy has "gone out of control" and U.S. prestige has fallen to an unprecedentedly low level, Senator E. Kennedy believes. Instead of promoting disarmament the United States has become the initiator of a new round in the arms race, and the President is gambling on military might, calling it the "cornerstone of national security." Promises to seek agreements with a view to strengthening mutual understanding and world peace are no longer recalled. The high moral standards are buried under a pile of assertions about the "right" to interfere in other states' affairs. The creation of interventionist forces for this purpose indicates that Washington has no intention of confining itself to words. It is therefore no accident that in recent weeks the revival of the "cold war" has been discussed increasingly.

Of course, taking American politicians at their word is a thankless task. Their promises are made for a quite specific purpose and are primarily aimed at the voter and no more. Because of its frequent utilization this method, and the value of the promises, are known to every schoolboy. After all, if a smart dealer palms off a useless article on you, you have only yourself to blame. In elections it is not articles which are being sold, but candidates for elected posts, including that of president, but there the difference ends. A new campaign is now in full swing and the promises are again in circulation. And experienced people will realize that nothing will follow from the promises--every game has its rules. And the rules are set by those who are masters in the house.

So the "inconstancy" of American policy is quite normal, and there would be no need to mention it but for one significant fact. In recent years there has been increasing evidence that methods intended for "domestic consumption" are being transferred to the sphere of international relations. Failure to fulfill commitments taken on and renunciation of steps and measures already announced, of one's own words and of signed documents are becoming commonplace in official Washington. The violation of established standards has become the norm. This process is embracing the most important spheres of interstate relations.

These undoubtedly include the second strategic arms limitation agreement, both because it is extremely important in itself, and because it acts as the main channel for future steps to limit the nuclear missile arms race. Thus Washington's conduct in coming full circle in this game--unparalleled in its lack of principles--is all the more indicative.

As is known, at first the Democratic administration displayed an unusually "broad approach." The proposals brought to Moscow by Secretary of State C. Vance in March 1977 went far beyond the bounds of the questions being discussed. The American story was that this was explained by the desire to achieve a decisive shift in arms limitation and disarmament. However, the essence of the new proposals indicated something else: First, they were based on the idea of obtaining unilateral advantages and were therefore unacceptable to the Soviet Union, and, second, they nullified the agreement reached in Vladivostok in 1974.

The new administration's "initiative" not only postponed the elaboration of the agreement's final text. The deviation from the agreed position had far-reaching consequences. The activation and unification of rightwing anti-Soviet forces under the umbrella of organizations such as the American Security Council, the Coalition for Peace Through Strength and the Committee on the Present Danger dates from precisely that period.

As a result people in Washington set about placing obstacles in the path of the agreement. Demands emerged for the "linkage" of SALT II with "the USSR's geopolitical conduct." Within the Capitol the question of monitoring the observance of the agreement was blown up out of all proportion, although it had been resolved during the talks process. Every time the government started to explain, the "hawks" responded with tendentiously selected facts, drawn, incidentally, from government sources by means of a whole system of information "leaks." The seeds of distrust were sown in the noise of the dispute, and the official voice was invariably drowned in the "hawks" harmonious chorus.

Is the government really so helpless in such circumstances? It would be frivolous to minimize its potential. As an example, the story of the Panama Canal treaty may be cited. In that same year, 1977, J. Carter decided to complete the talks begun 13 years earlier. The United States retained considerable privileges in the Panama Canal Zone, but the very fact of handing over an "American possession" to Panama caused indignation among the very same grouping of rightwing forces. Nonetheless the treaty was signed and ratified. The White House victory struck many observers at the time. But there was an explanation for it. As one observer noted, on this question the White House headed the struggle against a rightwing offensive, while on the SALT II question it trailed along behind, yielding positions one after another.

However, the other day the administration again demonstrated its inconstancy. President A. Royo of Panama sent J. Carter a message condemning a law adopted by Congress which virtually revises the Panama Canal treaty in favor of the United States. For Panama, the message notes, the treaty is now "becoming unacceptable in every respect." The Panamanian ambassador to the United States stated that his country could abrogate the treaty, since the U.S. administration and Congress are trying to "revise" a signed and ratified document....

The main rightwing aim amounts to restoring American nuclear superiority. This dream, as well as nostalgia for the "big stick," hindered the start of a Soviet-American dialog on strategic arms limitation right up to the late sixties. As Hedley Bull, professor of international relations at Oxford University, writes, "it is impossible to rid oneself of the impression that the debate over SALT II in America only formally concerns the details of the agreement itself. The main question is the fate of detente itself: Should the United States continue to seek the lessening of tension and the expansion of cooperation with its rival, or should it embark on a new plane of confrontation?"

By setting a 4-5 percent increase in military expenditure as a condition of ratification, the opposition came out in favor of the second path. The government not only accepted these conditions, but went even further. Last June a program for the development and deployment of MX ICBM's was approved. The military is counting on using this weapon to acquire a first-strike capability.

American medium-range missiles were already on Turkish and British territory as early as the late fifties. Now the Pentagon has obtained the NATO allies' consent to the deployment of American cruise and Pershing II missiles on West European states' territory. For the first time in 20 years the balance of forces on the continent is threatened. As a result the President who promised to "reduce nuclear weapons to zero" and who signed an agreement leading to precisely that end has started a new round in the nuclear race and a new increase in military expenditure.

Until now all these steps have been explained in terms of the desire to obtain ratification of the agreement. Now this promise has been discarded too. Borrowing the idea of "linkage" from the "hawks" and interpreting the Soviet Union's role in Afghan events in a free manner, the President has postponed ratification of SALT II indefinitely. American reaction's craving for the dream of nuclear superiority has prevailed. Election considerations have prevailed, according to which a promilitarist stance, as the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR puts it, "deprives the Republicans of an advantageous topic of debate."

It cannot be said that such behavior, which is impermissible for any responsible participant in an agreement, is any kind of anomaly for the United States. It is known, for instance, that the treaties on the limitation of underground nuclear tests and underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes concluded between the USSR and the United States in 1974 and 1976 have still not been ratified to this day. Everyone remembers Senator Jackson's and Congressman Vanik's amendment, which made Soviet-American trade and credit operations conditional on political requirements which constituted direct interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs. But whereas the "honor" of freezing trade ties has hitherto belonged to the Senate, now the President himself has set about "politicizing" trade and economic relations. An embargo was recently imposed on the delivery of a whole series of goods and on the sale of grain--one more example of the violation of agreements already reached.

It is also apposite to recall another document--the Soviet-American joint statement on the Near East, signed on 1 October 1977. This was described as "unique" in that it provided for not only the convening of the Geneva conference but also the observance of the principle of an all-embracing settlement of the Near East conflict, taking into account the interests of all peoples and all countries in the region, including the people of Palestine. Agreement to this principle on the part of both the USSR and the United States seemed to herald a breakthrough in resolving one of the most acute problems facing mankind. Vain expectations! The answer to this step was the separate deal between Tel Aviv and Cairo under Washington's auspices.

When if ever, will Washington become aware of its responsibilities? This question is suggested by the results of the last 3 years. The President has repeatedly stated that he intends to adhere to the principle of equality on the question of granting Most-Favored-Nation status in trade to the Soviet Union and China. For this reason, after the establishment of diplomatic relations between Washington and Beijing, many people started predicting the end of the Jackson-Vanik amendment. Now people in Washington are saying that the question of Most-Favored-Nation status for China will be resolved unilaterally.

Washington took part in talks with the USSR on limiting the weapons trade. But immediately after the start of the talks it became known that the biggest channels for deliveries of American weapons--first and foremost, to the shah's regime in Iran--were not under discussion. The government has now sanctioned the production of arms, including sophisticated fighter-bombers, specially for export.

Washington entered into talks with the Soviet Union on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean. Now plans have been announced for creating a new American fleet--specially for the Indian Ocean.

The question arises: On what is Washington calculating by repeatedly flouting international agreements and norms in mutual relations? Does it intend to test the other side's strength again? Or to try to impose its own line of conduct on the other side? Both are quite superfluous. The Soviet Union, which has already passed more than one such test, has no lack of firmness in defending its course and its ideals. And this reserve of firmness is enough to withstand and rebuff any pressure.

ANALYST ON SOVIET REFUSAL TO HOLD TALKS ON MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES

LD262222 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 26 Jan 80 LD

["Clear-Cut Stand"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 26, TASS--TASS political analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

Director of Politico-Military Affairs of the U.S. Department of State Reginald Bartholomew who presided over the first meeting in Brussels of NATO's newly-formed Special Committee for Nuclear Arms Control stated that the Soviet Union refused to hold talks on the terms advanced by the NATO Council in December of last year. According to him, allies in the NATO hope that the USSR will change its "negative stand" with regard to the proposal of the North Atlantic bloc. These (?deliberations) can hardly be described in any other way than as demagogy and hypocrisy. It is well known that it is precisely the Soviet Union that suggested that talks on medium-range missile nuclear weapons should be started immediately without any preliminary conditions advanced. The Soviet Union declared for honest equal talks. At the same time, it warned NATO member countries against rash decisions that might complicate the situation.

And what was NATO's answer to this sincere and noble call by the USSR?

NATO answered by adopting at the December session the decision dangerous for peace and detente to deploy the latest U.S. medium-range missiles in a number of West European countries. The aim of this decision was to disrupt the balance of forces that formed in Europe, to change the entire military-strategic situation in the European Continent.

Adopting this decision, NATO made impossible honest and equal talks, destroyed their very basis. The design of the West is easy to see through. It wished to hold talks with the USSR from the positions of supremacy, from the positions of strength.

NATO intended to hold these talks on a basis absolutely different from the one suggested by the USSR, on the basis of measures for deploying in Western Europe new systems of U.S. missile weapons, the measures that were approved by the North Atlantic bloc.

The Soviet Union, naturally, could not agree to talks on such conditions. The Soviet side explained already many times that if anyone wishes to hold talks with the USSR from the positions of strength, he must abandon these empty hopes.

The Soviet Union's stand is clear. The USSR is for talks, for honest equal talks with observing the principle of equal security. It is precisely such talks on medium range nuclear means that the Soviet Union suggested recently. No one can expect the Soviet Union to accept the NATO terms aimed at talking with the USSR from the positions of strength. The present stand of the NATO countries makes the talks on this problem impossible.

Any attempts of the NATO leaders to misrepresent the real state of affairs are doomed to failure.

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN VIENNA FOR MBFR TALKS

LD300924 Moscow TASS in English 0913 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Vienna, January 30, TASS--The Soviet delgation arrived here today to take part in the mutual force and arms reduction talks in central Europe which will be resumed on January 31.

HOPE FOR BUSINESSLIKE WESTERN APPROACH AT VIENNA TALKS

LD311028 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0330 GMT 31 Jan 80 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Aleksandr Fedonin]

[Text] The talks on reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe resume in Vienna today. The Vienna talks have already lasted over 6 years, but so far, because of the West's unconstructive position no discernible results have yet been achieved. All the same the participants in the talks are faced with an extremely urgent task: To resolve one of the most important problems connected with the strengthening peace and security on the European Continent. At the present time there is deployed in central Europe a number of soldiers and armaments which is enormous and not normal for peacetime. A basis for a future agreement was proposed as far back as November 1973 by the socialist countries, which spoke in favor of a reduction equal in percentage terms and numerical equal of the armed forces of states, such a reduction not to be prejudicial to either side. The West, however, disregarded this constructive proposal.

Later on, in the summer of 1978, the socialist states came out with a fresh important initiative, in order to put the Vienna talks on to practical lines. To this end they expressed readiness to take account of certain premises in the position adopted by the NATO countries. Briefly, the socialist countries took the line that reductions should result in the establishment of an equal collective level in the numbers of NATO and Warsaw Pact armed forces in central Europe. But the Western countries failed to respond to this proposal also.

And finally, the last proposal made by the socialist countries: On 28 June last year the delegations of the USSR, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia proposed the reduction of land troops to an equal collective level of 800,000 men. So that all participants in the talks--both from the Western and Eastern countries--might make a substantial contribution to the attainment of this target, it would be approximately proportional to the total numbers of troops of each participant. But in response to this an official NATO spokesman merely said that this initiative would be carefully studied and a reply would be given in the near future. On the eve of the 20th round of the talks it is to be hoped that the Western response will be thorough and businesslike.

SOCIALIST SPORTS LEADERS RECEIVED BY SOVIET LEADERS

ID281401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "In the 'Olympiad 80' Organizing Committee"]

[Text] A routine meeting of the mixed commission of the Olympic Games Organizing Committee took place on 22-23 January. Taking part in the meeting were representatives of sports organizations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, the DPRK, Laos, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. They exchanged opinions on preparations for the Olympic games in Moscow and visited Olympic sites.

The leaders of the sports organizations from the socialist countries were received by Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Questions of mutual interest were touched on in the talks which passed in a warm comradely atmosphere. Taking part in the talks were Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Olympic Games Organizing Committee, and Tyazhelnikov, head of the Propaganda Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

USSR, CEMA TO BUILD NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS

ID212028 Hamburg DPA in German 0944 GMT 21 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Frankfurt--By 1990 the Soviet Union and the CEMA states intend to build about 150 nuclear power stations with a total capacity of between 140,000 and 150,000 megawatts. A report by the Association of German Electricity Boards (VDEW) stated in Frankfurt on Monday that by this time 25 percent of the USSR's energy requirements (as much as 33 percent in the European part of the Soviet Union) is to be produced by nuclear power stations. According to the VDEW, a plant for the assembly-line manufacture of nuclear power stations has been under construction since 1974 in the town of Volgodonsk between the Volga and the Don at a total cost of R2.7 billion. Standardized pressurized water reactors with capacities of 440 or 1,000 megawatts are to be produced there from 1981 onward at the latest. The VDEW stated that there are at present in the Soviet Union 27 nuclear power stations with a total capacity of around 10,000 megawatts. They meet between 4 and 5 percent of the energy requirements in the country. By 1990 about 110,000 megawatts are to come from nuclear power stations. According to the VDEW report, the largest Soviet nuclear power station with 6,000 megawatts is being built near Nizhnekansk in the southern Urals. According to the VDEW, the CSSR intends to meet about 20 percent of its own energy requirements, Bulgaria 50 percent and Hungary 25 percent with the aid of nuclear power by 1990. In the CEMA countries 35 nuclear power plants with a capacity of about 8,000 megawatts are said to be in operation today outside the Soviet Union. Of all the CEMA states, nuclear power stations are manufactured, apart from in the Soviet Union, only in the CSSR. The other council states are included in the plans as suppliers of equipment parts.

BERLIN MEETING OF CEMA TRANSPORT COMMISSION

ID281017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Work Completed"]

[Text] Berlin, 18 January--A session of the CEMA Standing Commission on Transport ended here today.

Taking part were delegations from the CEMA countries--Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia--and also from Yugoslavia.

The commission defined its tasks stemming from the resolutions of the 33d CEMA session sitting and the 91st and 92d sessions of the CEMA Executive Committee and outlined measures for their fulfillment. Great attention was paid to the implementation of measures envisaged by the long-term targeted program of cooperation.

The delegations of the interested CEMA countries on the commission discussed with profound understanding the problem of rendering aid to Vietnam in restoring and developing its transport facilities.

SRV'S HUYNH TAN PHAT INTERVIEWED AT 93d CEMA SESSION

OW2614l5 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1000 GMT 23 Jan 80 OW

[Station correspondent's "interview" with Huynh Tan Phat, SRV vice premier, who recently attended the 93d session of the CEMA Executive Committee in Moscow--recorded; date not given]

[Text] Comrade Huynh Tan Phat said:

[Begin Huynh Tan Phat recording] It was decided at the 93d CEMA session that the 110th birthday of Comrade Lenin, a great leader of the world revolution, would be commemorated with pomp this year. Along with the world's people, the Vietnamese people are highly elated preparing for this great anniversary because Lenin's image is always present in our people's minds and because our people will never forget that Lenin is a bright, increasingly brighter, beacon illuminating forever the path of advance for the Vietnamese revolution as well as the world revolutions whose successes are derived from the October revolution. Therefore, we are extremely grateful to Lenin, a great leader of the Vietnamese revolution and other world revolutions. While carrying out revolutionary activities abroad our venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh quickly saw in Marxism-Leninism the correct way for national salvation. He correctly applied Leninist principles that advocate a close relationship between national liberation and the proletarian revolution in leading our national liberation struggle to success.

This year, we are going to celebrate the great Lenin's birthday at a time when the Soviet Union, his homeland, is successfully building advanced socialism and advancing toward communism. Along with the Soviet Union, many other fraternal socialist countries are also successfully building socialism. The anniversary of Comrade Lenin's birth this year is a momentous event since the three revolutionary currents in the world are increasingly developing, repelling imperialism and thwarting all counterrevolutionary schemes of the international reactionaries.

We again reaffirm our determination to continue to follow the path charted by the October revolution, to develop our revolutionary gains and to successfully build socialism, so as to contribute to strengthening the world revolutions, firmly maintaining peace, defending the purity of Marxism-Leninism and frustrating all the counterrevolutionary schemes of the Beijing reactionaries who betray Marxism-Leninism and the world revolution.

The participants in the recent CEMA session assessed last year's situation of the CEMA country members as well as their great achievements. They also exposed the dark schemes of the imperialists and international reactionaries who are striving to discredit Afghanistan and who are using that country as a springboard from which to unleash threats and aggressive actions against the Soviet Union and other Middle East countries. However, we are sure that they will ignominiously fail in their attempt because the Soviet Union and Middle East countries are will aware of their schemes and remain highly vigilant.

We fully approve of the recent statement by Comrade Brezhnev positively affirming that what the imperialists have lost is lost forever and that they certainly will fail in their sabotage schemes against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

We understand the Afghan problem very well. As the Chinese did before in Kampuchea, the imperialists are now scheming, in support of Pakistan and reactionaries and counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan, to occupy and turn Afghanistan, a country sharing a long border with the Soviet Union, into a springboard from which to pose a threat to the Soviet Union and prepare dark schemes of aggression against the Soviet Union and Middle East countries.

However, we are confident they will fail ignominously in their schemes against Afghanistan, just as the Chinese failed in their schemes against Kampuchea. The Kampuchean and Afghan situations are irreversible, and the imperialists will certainly sustain one setback after another. [end recording]

TALKS BETWEEN HONECKER, WARSAW PACT'S KULIKOV

LD251418 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 25 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Berlin, January 25, TASS--General secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the GDR National Defence Council Erich Honecker received here Commander-in-Chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member states Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov.

In the course of the meeting, which proceeded in an atmosphere of cordial and full mutual understanding, Erich Honecker pointed out the great significance of the Warsaw Treaty in the cause of strengthening peace in Europe and ensuring collective security of the socialist states. He expressed confidence that the implementation of the decisions of the Defence Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states will contribute towards a further strengthening and deepening of political and military cooperation between the brother socialist countries.

USSR OLYMPIC COMMITTEE CONDEMNS WESTERN BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

LD311122 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 31 Jan 80 LD

["Statement by the USSR Olympic Committee"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--The USSR Olympic Committee has issued the following statement here today:

"Reactionary circles of the USA and some Western countries are intensively building up a propaganda campaign with the aim of preventing the holding of the 22nd Olympic games of 1980 in Moscow. It is absolutely obvious that the point at issue is a pre-planned and coordinated hostile act directed against mutual understanding and friendship among nations, against peace and progress. It is precisely the figures who quite recently assured of their adherence to the slogan 'sport out of politics,' who are now encroaching on the fundamental principles of the present day international Olympic movement. By their present actions they would like to place the movement of tens of millions peoples in the world, for whom the games are an expression of the lofty ideals proclaimed by Pierre de Coubertin, at the service of their policy of blackmail and hegemonism. They are disregarding the fact that it may split the very Olympic movement.

"The idea to boycott the 22nd Olympic games is condemned world-wide, President of the International Olympic Committee Lord Killanin, who rejected malicious attacks against the Moscow Olympics, has declared for the cohesion and unity of the Olympic movement. The leaders of the national Olympic committees of an overwhelming majority of countries and international sports federations, noted figures in sport, prominent coaches and outstanding athletes have reaffirmed their invariable wish to participate in the summer Olympics games of 1980 in Moscow.

"The USSR Olympic Committee, true to the ideals of the Olympic movement, condemns the attempts at using sport as a means of political pressure and calls upon the International Olympic Committee, the national Olympic committees of all countries, sports federations and unions, all people of goodwill to give a resolute rebuff to the sponsors of the present hostile campaign. On behalf of Soviet athletes, the USSR Olympic Committee expresses confidence that no forces will be able to undermine the world Olympic movement. In complying with the decision of the session of the International Olympic Committee on the holding of the summer Olympic games in 1980 in Moscow, the Soviet people are preparing for these games in strict accordance with the Olympic Charter and are doing everything for making the Moscow Olympics a sports festival in the name of strengthening mutual understanding and friendship of young people in the world, of building a better and calmer world."

SOVIET ACTIVISTS CALL FOR OLYMPIC BOYCOTT OR CHANGE OF VENUE

LD251802 Hamburg DPA in German 1737 GMT 25 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Frankfurt--Twelve prominent civil rights activists from the Soviet Union--including Vladimir Bukovskiy, Aleksandr Ginsburg and Vladimir Maksimov--have issued an appeal to the European Parliament in Strasbourg earnestly requesting that either the Olympic games be moved from Moscow or that there be a boycott of the Olympics. A statement by the dissidents circulated by the Association for Human Rights [Gesellschaft fuer Menschenrechte] today said that the increasing persecution within the USSR and the invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet troops are two aspects of a Soviet policy that would inevitably lead to a third world war if it were not stopped.

GAVRILOV ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF STATE OF UNION MESSAGE

LD301209 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Maj Yu. Gavrilov military-political review: "Doctrine of Aggression and Diktat"]

[Text] In Washington, as one U.S. newspaper put it recently, a "powerful impetus" has been given to "the spirit of military adventurism." This grim spirit, accompanied across the Atlantic by the unrestrained shipping up of chauvinist intoxication and aggressive appeals, has already not only long taken firm hold in the Pentagon but also, to all appearances, is now shrouding increasingly densely the White House apartments and session halls of the Capitol where the 95th U.S. Congress resumed its work this week after the Christmas recess. The U.S. military-industrial complex and the "hawk" congressmen together with the representatives of the Washington administration who are possessed by reelection passions, have worked zealously to implant in the country an atmosphere favorable to pushing through the "new" foreign policy course. Anticipating the decisions which the congressmen will have to take, UPI categorically reported recently: The congressmen intend, "with a patent determination to put an end to the antiwar feelings persisting on Capitol Hill since the Vietnam war," to step up their demands for "the accelerated buildup of the military might" of the United States.

The U.S. "hawks" have every grounds for being satisfied. President J. Carter has now submitted to Congress his last report before the elections, called the State of the Union Message. The world press has recently been writing a great deal about individual aspects of the so-called U.S. "new strategy" or "Carter doctrine." Now that Carter's message to Congress has been made public and he himself has delivered his "policy" address, the essence of this "doctrine" has become obvious. Its pivot is the dangerous U.S. slide toward a policy of confrontation and hostility with the world of socialism and the national liberation movement and the desire to resurrect in the international arena an atmosphere of tension and cold war profoundly inimical to the cause of peace, detente and the peoples' security. A report recently published by the influential U.S. public organization Americans for Democratic Action analyzing the evolution of the present Washington administration's activity during its 3 years in office contains a highly eloquent conclusion: J. Carter's main election promises--to reduce arms deliveries abroad, to withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea, to reduce the military budget by $5-7 billion, and so forth--have not been fulfilled. Moreover, Carter's 3 years in office ended with the crisis he himself had created in Iran and with a sharp leap in military expenditure or, in a nutshell, with the United States' shift to the dangerous "from a position of strength" strategy. In this connection commentators point out that those who for a long time have acted in the role of advocates of a U.S. "hard line" with respect to the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and in the international arena as a whole are gaining the upper hand in the Carter administration.

The "Carter doctrine" is spearheaded primarily at the global intensification of U.S. military potential in order to insure the hegemony of U.S. imperialism in the world, to assume the "right" to impose its diktat on other countries and peoples, and to undertake aggressive acts and military adventures in any part of the world.

This long-term militarist program aimed at attaining "military superiority" and proclaimed by Carter back on 12 December last year at a meeting with representatives of the military-industrial complex, is clumsily camouflaged in the President's message by slanderous statements about the "Soviet threat."

Carter states without embarrassment: "...We will continue, just as we have been doing over the past 3 years, to build America's military strength and that of our allies and friends. Neither the Soviet Union nor any other nation will have reason to question our will to sustain the strongest and most flexible defense (!) forces." To attain its aggressive militarist goals, Carter stated, the United States "must pay any price required to remain the world's strongest country." Rejecting his former promises as unnecessary rubbish, the U.S. President submitted to Congress an unprecedented program for the buildup of military expenditure. While in 1976 military expenditure was $94 billion, in the current budget it has increased to almost $140 billion and in fiscal 1981 it is planned to bring its level "to over $158 billion." The fulfillment of the program which has been advanced for building up military preparations will require new multibillion appropriations in the future. It is clear from Carter's speech that the administration intends "to set in the defense plan a growth rate" which, he stated "we can sustain over the long haul."

The program's main feature is the further development, creation and improvement of offensive weapons and weapons of aggression. Above all emphasis is placed on the modernization of all components of U.S. strategic nuclear forces. This includes in particular the immediate creation of air-based cruise missiles, whose production will begin as early as next year, the improvement of the B-52 strategic bombers "by improving their ability to deliver weapons against increasingly heavily defended targets," and the development of the Trident underwater missile system with ballistic missiles of the same name.

Special emphasis is placed on the production of the MX ICBMS which, the President said, will enhance "the survivability of our land-based ICBM missile force" and intensify the "capability to attack a wide variety of Soviet targets" (!)

One of the cornerstones of U.S. military policy is the intensification of U.S. military presence in West Europe, which the Pentagon is turning into a launch pad for the Pershing II medium-range missiles and cruise missiles targeted against the USSR and its allies. ("A historic step," Carter cynically stated in his message.) The message's section headed "forces for NATO" speaks of the intention to step up the aggressive military potential of this bloc's countries also "by sending ground and air forces there on a large scale in the event of a crisis." An extensive program was announced for increasing the firepower and mobility of U.S. units in West Europe and "modernizing the army's weapons and equipment" including an increase in the number of armored vehicles and tanks.

Plans are being elaborated for prepositioning a large quantity of heavy equipment and expanding "airlift and sealift capabilities" with a view to transferring U.S. troops. At the same time over the course of 5 years it is planned to increase by over 10 percent the number of airborne fighter groups deployed in the NATO countries, for which a further 1,700 new fighters and fighter-bombers will be purchased.

It is also planned to implement large-scale measures to develop the naval forces. It is promised to increase the number of U.S. Navy ships to 550 by 1990. There is a trend toward building large ships--aircraft carriers, destroyers and submarines. [paragraph continues]

The goal of Washington's "naval ambitions" was elaborated quite unambiguously by the President: "The program I have proposed guaranteed our navy's capability to operate in particularly threatened regions, to maintain control on the seas, to protect vitally important communications--both military and economic--and to insure a strong naval component in our rapid deployment contingent."

As is well known, these forces are intended for use by the Pentagon as an instrument of imperialist interference in the affairs of other countries and peoples and for conducting aggressive actions and military adventures against the countries of the Near and Middle East, Southeast Asia, Africa, Latin America--wherever Washington, adopting the role of world gendarme, is prepared to seize "the big stick" to save its shaky positions. The "rapid deployment forces" whose numerical strength may be in excess of 100,000, must be "prepared for rapid deployment to any region of strategic significance." For this, Carter called for (so as to "respond to crises outside of Europe") "the development and production of a new fleet of large cargo aircraft with intercontinental range" and special ships "for prepositioning that will carry heavy equipment and supplies" for the Pentagon's gendarme corps.

Other points in Carter's militarist program include the intensification of the United States" "intelligence capability," that is, the expansion of the subversive operations of the CIA and other espionage organizations. It is also proposed to examine the question of a switch to compulsory military service in the country, repealed after the failure of the aggression in Vietnam.

What Carter announced in his message to Congress is the tip of the militarist iceberg, so to speak. The Pentagon and its contractors in the military business, the Washington POST writes, are anticipating new multibillion profits on seeing that the President is "spinning the flywheel of the military industry." The White House is now being noisily applauded in the United States by reactionaries of all stripes praising it for abandoning the "illusion of peaceful coexistence." However, sober-minded figures, pointing to the danger that Washington's "new" aggressive course poses for the cause of peace and detente, are noting that it is above all the United States' attempts to attain military superiority over the USSR which are illusory. Emphasizing this idea, Senator J. Javits writes in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: "All these efforts merely put fat in the fire on the nuclear arms race but do not produce the desired results." Nor will its attempts to discredit Soviet foreign policy produce the desired results for Washington. The U.S. figures will not succeed in whitewashing the dangerous imperialist U.S. policy--a world gendarme policy.

The U.S. magazine FOREIGN POLICY rightly calls Washington's present "hard line" not a "new strategy" but "a lack of strategy." We cannot fail to agree with this. The U.S. imperialist circles' global militarist program for building up U.S. military potential and military presence in various parts of the world as set forth in the President's message and his address in Congress returns the world to the times of the cold war policy and "gunboat" policy, and is an attempt to resurrent the old policy of diktat. This dangerous cause is provoking universal and resolute protests. The return to the "from a position of strength" policy proclaimed by Washington presents a serious threat to peace and the peoples' security.

'DANGEROUS OLD' ELEMENTS IN NEW 'CARTER DOCTRINE'

LD300929 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[A. Vlasov article under the rubric "With the Weapon of Truth:" "Relapsing Into 'Imperial' Policy"]

[Text] The U.S. President has just delivered the traditional State of the Union Message to the American Congress. In the foreign policy section of the message he particularly emphasized the "need" for the United States to "assert its leading role in the world," which, he admits, "is going through the broadest, most tumultuous changes ever known in the history of mankind." Here the President stated that in order to implement hegemonism in this way he is prepared to use a "wide range of threats," which in the message are brought together to form the so-called U.S. "defense program" for the next 5 years.

U.S. political circles and also the mass media are already calling this program the "Carter doctrine" and it is being widely discussed in the country and elsewhere.

The designers of this doctrine explain their haste in terms of the "extraordinary circumstances" allegedly caused by the "Soviet Union's actions." However, the real facts indicate otherwise. L. I. Brezhnev's answers to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions show convincingly and with concrete examples how at the junction of the seventies and eighties certain U.S. circles unilaterally took steps contrary to the American-Soviet accords, embarked on a path of fanning militarist hysteria and exacerbated the situation in Europe, the Near East and the Indian Ocean region.

At the NATO Council session in Brussels a decision was adopted on the deployment of new types of American nuclear weapons on U.S. insistence and against the will of the peoples of West European countries. Western Europe, already saturated with military arsenals, is becoming an explosive "nuclear powder keg."

The United States itself is increasing its military budget by $20 billion in the next fiscal year. The U.S. military department maintains about half a million American soldiers abroad, has more than 400 major military bases on foreign states' territories and annually sells weapons worth more than $13 billion abroad.

The number of American warships which the United States is concentrating in the Persian Gulf is unprecedented in peacetime. Iran, Afghanistan and other countries which have embarked on a path of national liberation have become the target of constant threats and provocations in the part of U.S. imperialist circles. CIA agents, with the knowledge and approval of the relevant authorities, are continuing to weave a fabric of conspiracies and prepare plans for new coups.

This has already happened more than once: Politicians across the ocean have made a great show of talking about peace, while in practice putting up armed resistance to national liberation movements. Suffice it to recall only a few instances, such as the U.S. war in Korea, the occupation of the Dominican Republic, armed provocations and the blockade against Cuba, the aggressive war in Vietnam, the secret war in Laos, the U.S. invasion of Cambodian territory....

The "new" "Carter doctrine" contains the same old dangerous policy elements which the United States has used repeatedly in the past. Practical actions by U.S. reactionary circles, aimed against detente and national liberation movements, are substantiated by "foreign policy principles" which amount to the latest "American objectives." First, an attempt is made to justify the turnabout in foreign policy in terms of threats to "U.S. national interests." [paragraph continues]

Second, U.S. readiness to use force to "defend its foreign policy objectives" is expressed. Third, the aim is to "increase aid" to certain developing countries in order to encircle southwest Asian countries and neighboring oil producing countries in the Near East even more closely with military bases, so as to make them more compliant. In brief, it is the old tune again, about the "threat to U.S. national interests...."

In fact it is a question of a new relapse into "imperial" ideology and policy and the desire to build the world according to the American pattern. Hence the adoption of new decisions in the political and economic spheres, which are represented as the "only correct" decisions, superior to all other possibilities. Just such "ideas" permeated the Truman doctrine and the Marshall Plan and the strategies of the "containment" and "rolling back" of communism and "brinkmanship," which, as is known, led the United States into political impasses and ultimately failed. The same ideas led the United States into the shameful Vietnam war.

The U.S. defeat in Vietnam made many people in America think about the lamentable consequences of the "imperial" ideology and its policy. It was clear that America's prestige abroad had fallen to an unprecedentedly low level and the United States itself had entered a phase of serious economic and moral crisis. Many politicians realized that it is not possible to turn the developing countries into an image of the Western "free world" by force of arms and by means of American interference.

The conclusion suggested itself: It is necessary to think, not about force of arms and interference in internal affairs, but about attempts to find peaceful ways of resolving complex international questions. And in the 1976 election struggle Jimmy Carter, then the governor of Georgia and unknown in the Washington arena, made use of such sentiments not without success. He gave assurances that he "seeks friendship" with other nations, the "development of scientific and cultural exchange" and the "holding of consultations" to resolve problems in key regions of the world. The Democratic Party candidate promised to reduce the military budget and pull American troops out of South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines. He assured the voters that he would make efforts to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons and that his administration would "avoid sharp fluctuations in relations with other states."

But even then certain U.S. press organs noted the electioneering nature of Carter's promises and his desire to use for his own ends the obvious downfall of many of the political principles of a United States "beset by cynicism." A certain inconsistency was noted in the statements of the candidate, who, in particular, demanded "concessions to the United States" from other countries as the price of detente.

This inconsistency soon became obvious to everyone. Carter broke his promises relatively quickly, having failed to withstand the pressure from the reactionary forces which are whipping up the arms race and which have advocated and continue to advocate the policy of armed interventions and overt interference in the affairs of developing countries which have embarked on the path of the national liberation movement.

In particular, on the eve of the 1976 elections Carter promised to acknowledge the "results of democratic elections" in any particular country even if the results of those elections turn out to be unfavorable for American national interests. But as soon as the peoples of Angola, Ethiopia, Iran, Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Laos chose the path of national liberation from imperialist diktat, people started making a fuss in the United States about a "threat to national interests." [paragraph continues]

As soon as the oil-producing countries of the Near East, Africa and Latin America adopted measures to equalize their unbalanced exchange with capitalist states, people in the United States, instead of utilizing their own rich domestic oil sources, again started shouting about a "threat to U.S. national interests."

And now the United States wants to use military threats and "economic aid" to maintain inequitable political and economic relations with developing states. "American aid" has led to a situation where the countries receiving such aid experience tremendous economic difficulties. This year their total deficit will total more than $55 billion. The debt to the West of the black African countries alone has increased from $21 billion in 1975 to $40 billion in 1979.

In the political sphere the United States has chosen a policy of turning countries against each other and splitting the unified front of national liberation movements. The Camp David deal between Egypt and Israel, implemented under U.S. pressure, serves as an example of U.S. neocolonialist policy and indicates U.S. unreliability as a partner. The United States uses its partners for the sake of its "own national interests." The partners are isolated from countries in their region and suffer moral, political and economic expenses which cannot be compensated for by any sums in American "aid."

The unreliability of U.S. partnership is also manifested in the NATO session's decision on the deployment of new types of American nuclear weapons in Europe. In imposing this decision the United States is undermining West European countries' security and heaping additional military expenditure on the shoulders of a number of those countries.

The same elements are also concealed behind the principles of the "new" doctrine--the "Carter doctrine"--with respect to developing countries. In dragging certain neighboring countries into actions against Iran and Afghanistan, the United States is trying to disunite them, pit them against one another and thereby extinguish the desire for an independent path of development or make it more difficult.

Concealing its true goals, the Carter administration tries to justify itself with references to the "threat of communism." It is indicative that each time the United States has prepared to "liberate" other peoples and to "contain" or "roll back" the communists, American leaders and their loyal news media have begun to invest the latest "threats." Their aim has been the same--to conceal the gulf between the election promises and the real actions of the White House administration, to conceal the essence of the dangerous imperialist doctrine and to make public opinion operate in an atmosphere of fear so that people accept a policy leading to a new arms spiral.

Thus today the peoples of the world have come up against a sharp turnabout in the foreign policy of the Carter administration, whose first term in power is coming to an end. Even in the United States itself, despite the hysteria inspired from above about "threats to U.S. national interests," there are still sober-minded people. They warn against hasty actions and recall that there have been earlier periods in U.S. history when politicians, in an atmosphere of "threats" and "fears" created on their own initiative, have failed to analyze important international questions in depth and have adopted decisions really damaging to the U.S. people.

On the eve of the 1976 elections Z. Brzezinski, who was elaborating a foreign policy program for Carter, wrote that American figures must discard "acrobatic methods" and begin "political architecture." Some 4 years have passed, and the American voters can now answer for themselves the question of whether the administration has succeeded in ridding itself of "political acrobatics."

'NEW IRANIAN POLICY': CONSOLIDATION OF POSITION AT ANY PRICE

LD281541 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Article by O. Anichkin: "The U.S. Chameleons"]

[Text] The latest talk in Washingtin is about the U.S. administration's intention of embarking on a "new Iranian policy," which essentially boils down to consolidating its positions in Iran at any price. With the help of the propaganda machine, the policy's creators would like to give Iran and the whole world the impression that they are almost ready to give up the hard-line policy of threatening to use force, establishing an economic blockade and carrying on subversive activities, which has been pursued until recently. As is shown by the recent developments and the reaction to them in the world, this policy has failed to produce the results on which the United States was counting: it wanted to bring Iran to its knees.

All the indications are that in this situation the present U.S. administration would like to extricate itself from the protracted crisis, if only because it can no longer use it to pile up election points, as was the case at the outset. The course of events could now have exactly the opposite effect. On the other hand, Washington officials are faced with the temptation of trying to use the situation in Iran to their advantage in connection with the events in Afghanistan.

In pursuit of its aims the United States is resorting to all manner of means, many of which have been used in the past. The attempts to show that the United States now intends to abandon the techniques of pressure, blackmail and threats are, seemingly, designed for simple-minded or naive people who are ignorant of the facts of the recent past.

The United States rejected Iranian proposals aimed at finding an acceptable solution to the conflict. The idea was to create an international commission to investigate the crimes committed by the shah during his rule and to recognize Iran's right to demand the shah's extradition and to possess the shah's assets and property.

Despite the prevarications of U.S. diplomats, there is still no sign of the United States renouncing threats to use force against Iran. At any rate, the armada of U.S. ships concentrated in the Persian Gulf has not been reduced by a single ship, of which there is a total of 25 there, including three aircraft carriers. These are carrying several hundred fighter planes and more than 16,000 servicemen, ready to go into action at a moment's notice.

The United States is as determined as ever to impose a harsh economic blockade against Iran. It is endeavoring to force its West European allies against their will to join in these sanctions against the Iranian people.

Washington is hatching plans to trigger an internal explosion in Iran. It is no accident that the other day a White House spokesman stated that the administration "does not rule out the possibility of Iran's disintegration." The United States is encouraging various separatist movements in Iran with the clear purpose of weakening the central government, undermining the country's unity, dismembering it and as a result facilitating a U.S. return to the region.

There are those in the administration who occasionally go too far in their cynical arrogance toward the Iranian authorities, declaring that "there is nobody you can deal with in Iran" since, they claim, "it is not a government but a group of terrorists" which is in power. Insulting the Iranian Government leadership has the subversive aim of undermining its authority. The talk of "Marxist terrorists" serves similarly provocative purposes.

Such claims are indicative not only of certain officials' cynicism but also of their ignorance. Terrorism is a product of imperialism and has nothing to do with Marxism. In this connection let it be remembered that the U.S. secret services resorted to terrorism when in 1953 they organized the overthrow of the lawful Mossadeq government and imposed the shah's arbitrary and lawless regime on the Iranian people.

To this one could add that Washington turned Iran for more than a quarter-century into a country which would submissively fulfill the role of U.S. strategic springboard. In some years as many as 40,000 U.S. servicemen were stationed in the country, whatever they were called officially. The country was ruled by terror and coercion unleashed by SAVAK--the secret police created by the Americans.

These are facts which Washington cannot refute.

The United States wants to hid the real aims of its "new Iranian policy" behind a screen of lies and slander and by spreading malicious rumors about "the threat to Iran from the north," that is, from the Soviet Union. At the same time it hastens to announce U.S. plans to "defend the territorial integrity and security" of Iran and willingness to "coordinate efforts with the Iranian Government in the face of the Soviet threat."

None of these hypocritical lies can hide Washington's real aims and plans. The smell of oil gives the U.S. monopolies no peace. In the last quarter-century the international oil consortium, 40 percent of whose shares belonged to U.S. oil companies, shipped more than 2.5 billion tons of oil out of Iran. But the United States sees Iran not only as a source of superprofits but also as an important outpost for it on the border with the Soviet Union.

In an attempt to pour oil on troubled water the United States wants to prove that the Soviet Union poses a threat to Islamic countries. This is a thunderous lie intended to have far-reaching repercussions. However, no matter how many times it is repeated, a lie does not become the truth. The Soviet Union has never been a threat to the Islamic countries, and this can easily be proved by examining the facts of history.

Who in fact is it that deals more blows than anyone else to the states of the Islamic world? The answer is simple--the United States and its agents in the Near and Middle East. It is a well-known fact that with Israel's help the United States has inflicted a great deal of suffering on Muslim countries and their peoples. For many years Palestinians driven from their native soil have been living as refugees. This is the result of U.S. policy in the region, and the United States is still actively hampering a solution to the problem of giving the Arab people of Palestine their lawful rights. Once again with U.S. assistance, Jerusalem, which Muslims regard as their holy place, is in the hands of the Zionists.

And what is the significance of the Israeli-Egyptian separate deal concluded under the U.S. aegis? Its thrust is to strike a blow at the Arab and Muslim peoples and to undermine Arab and Muslim solidarity.

The idea behind the U.S. "new policy" toward Iran is all too obvious: to blunt the Iranian people's vigilance and to divert their attention from the real threat, posed by the United States. Washington's actions are reminiscent of the behavior of a chameleon, which can change color as the situation demands. But it is unlikely that the United States will be able to conceal the dangerous plans which it has in store for the Iranian people.

Iran, which is currently going through a difficult period in its history, demands just one thing--to be left alone.

CARTER POLITICAL 'TRANSFORMATION' UNRELATED TO AFGHANISTAN

LD301425 Moscow TRUD in Russian 25 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[V. Sisnev article: "Doctrine Redolent of Gunpowder"]

[Text] At the stage when the specific composition of the new Washington administration was being formed, Hamilton Jordan, the closest aide of the 39th U.S. President who had only just taken office, promised at a press conference: "You will see new faces with new ideas." Some 3 years later it must be noted that the positive "new ideas," if indeed they did exist in the political baggage of James Earl Carter, have been totally forfeited over this period. The incumbent President's last report before the next election, in the form of the State of the Union Message to Congress, is compiled as though it were not January 1980 but the height of the cold war outside.

It was announced that the message would formulate the "Carter doctrine." This of itself already implies some fresh utterance in politics. It transpired that here too everything had long been familiar and that the "Carter doctrine" was an eclectic fusion of the aggressive, imperialist programs advanced by some of his predecessors. On virtually every page you can find a promise to "build up America's military strength and the strength of our allies and friends." In what connection? This is easy to guess for those who remember the "doctrines" of Truman, Eisenhower and so forth. In connection with the "Soviet threat," of course. This combination of words has been used by President Carter on countless occasions.

The direction which the White House has taken in foreign policy at the junction of the decades was described on 23 January by what is perhaps the most authoritative U.S. newspaper, the New York TIMES, as "capitulation to traditional hardliners."

This is also the opinion of West European observers. Here is just one characteristic statement, from the Paris newspaper LIBERATION: "The U.S. President is adapting to the eighties. Appeals to fight inflation--the main plague of American society--and to mobilize efforts to resolve energy problems are ended. The tasks set by Carter for the next decade provide for the consolidation of U.S. and allied military strength.

What a contrast to President Carter's very first speech, which I heard in the U.S. capital on 20 January 1977. At the time, expressing the hope that "a firm edifice of peace based not on the means of warfare but on international politics" would be built, he solemnly promised: "We firmly intend to display persistence and wisdom in our desire to limit weapons arsenals on earth to the dimensions essential for safeguarding each country's own security."

As of that moment the newly elected U.S. leader believed that $5-7 billion less than was invested in the military budget at the time would be required to safeguard the country's security. But now, in his opinion, it is essential to increase "defense" appropriations to $158 billion--almost $20 billion more than in the current fiscal year. For, President Carter says, "our world remains a dangerous world in which democracy and freedom are still jeopardized," and consequently "we must pay any price required to remain the strongest country in the world." All this is very far, is it not, from the promises made at the time of the President's inauguration of "persistence and wisdom in our desire to limit weapons aresenals on earth?"

And again, as in all his recent speeches, the U.S. chief executive gives priority to the Soviet military aid to Afghanistan, which allegedly opened his eyes to the "true nature" of Soviet foreign policy and the dimensions of the "Soviet military threat."

An assessment of assertions of this sort was exhaustively provided by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, stressing that "the events in Afghanistan are not the real reason for the present complication of the international situation. Had it not been for Afghanistan, certain U.S. and NATO circles would probably have found another pretext for aggravating the world situation."

History and the American people will ascertain whether President Carter's initial good intentions were just a gesture to post-Vietnam and post-Watergate feelings or whether, in retreating step by step to the "hawks," he eventually reached a logical alliance with them. At present it is important for us to note one thing: The reason or even the pretext for the transformation of the White House's political line was not the "Afghan question"; this transformation began long before the December events in Kabul took place and, as in the past, it was based not on the Afghan but "the Russian question." A high-ranking member of the Washington administration, to be more specific Agriculture Secretary Bergland, said with a farmer's frankness: "You can say the word 'Afghanistan' to any ordinary citizen and he won't even understand what you're talking about."

Let us recall that the cold war champions' propaganda offensive did not start after President Carter's New Year speech but merely attained its greatest intensity at that time. It originates in the first days after Carter's election victory, when the military-industrial complex feared that a "pacifist" would be moving into the White House and that the line toward detente and curbing the arms race would be continued. The notorious Committee on the Present Danger, which has become so widely known for its hysterics over the "Soviet danger," was created by influential figures from Washington's political and military circles back in November 1976. Back on the eve of Carter's move into the Presidential residence thousands of television stations here showed the inflammatory anti-Soviet movie "The Price of Peace and Freedom" [Tsena Mira i Svobody], calling for an arms race in the face of this same "Soviet threat." The so-called American Security Council, of which about 200,000 shareholders in the military industry are members, financed the shooting of this "masterpiece."

Similar "committees" and "councils" have proliferated in the past 3 years. With various names, they have been seeking one and the same goal: to impose on the U.S. people a review of the "Russian question," of the attitude toward the Soviet Union and problems of international politics decided in the late sixties and early seventies in favor of detente and mutually advantageous cooperation.

Without this review of the "Russian question" and without a return to the chauvinist passions of the cold war it was impossible to push America and the whole world toward a new, unrestrained and lethal weapons race. After all, behind all the anti-Soviet howling, behind all the hurrah-patriotism lies cold, business calculation by ringleaders of the powerful military business which is stage-managing, behind the scenes, what is happening on the U.S. political stage. Not for nothing did the French newspaper LES ECHOS write that "the learned discussion by NATO experts" arguing the need to deploy new U.S. missiles in West Europe "conceals a gigantic commercial battle."

Nightmares about the possible "pacifism" of the press administration were fully and definitively dispelled by the thesis in the President's message asserting "the global nature of U.S. interests and the need for us to pursue a global foreign policy." Properly speaking the "Carter doctrine" does in fact consist in pledging to safeguard U.S. interests" throughout the world.

The review of the "Russian question" imposed on Americans has one further underlying cause--one redolent of oil as, incidentally, becomes clear on close acquaintance with the President's message. Although the essence of Washington's maneuvers around the Persian Gulf is already obvious enough, the message makes substantial additions to the overall unseemly picture. Acknowledging the real reason for U.S. attempts to establish imperialist control over the Near and Middle East, which is that "this region provides two-thirds of world oil exports" and that "cutting oil supplies would provoke an even more serious economic crisis than the Great Depression 50 years ago," President Carter states without a trace of embarrassment, having Iran in mind: "In principle we have no quarrel with that country, with Iran's revolution or its people. The threat to them comes not from U.S. policy but from the Russians' action in this region."

I think that the best response to these obeisances and attempts to shift the blame was provided by the participants in the recent conference of foreign ministers of Arab countries belonging to the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. Their final statement severely branded the role of the forces of imperialism headed by the United States in the process of fueling tension in international relations and "attempts by these forces to use recent events in Iran and Afghanistan to camouflage their own long-standing aggressive imperialist designs."

The White House's latest demarche proves yet again that its actions are an ill-considered attempt to use the events in Afghanistan to block international efforts to reduce military danger, strengthen peace and limit the arms race, in other words, to block something in which all mankind is vitally interested.

HYPOCRISY IN BEMOANING HAFIZOLLAH AMIN CONDEMNED

LD302030 Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS-TASS commentator Nikolay Novikov writes:

"The investigation by the Afghan special commission into criminal activities of Hafizollah Amin and his assistants yielded irrefutable proof that Amin was a flunkey of U.S. imperialism, an agent of American special services. The investigation has at its disposal documents, including Amin's personal notes, which testify to broad proportions of the imperialist conspiracy against Afghanistan, the sinister role assigned in it to Amin.

As journalists have been told by the leader of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal, documents on that conspiracy and Amin's betrayal are being prepared for publication. But what has already become known to the public is sufficient to picture the disgusting image of the usurper and tyrant.

Nurturing his own ambitious plans, Amin first in the United States and then in Afghanistan itself established links with the American intelligence service. Then, on the CIA's assignment, he enters into collusion with ring-leaders of counter-revolutionary organisations, who entrenched themselves in Pakistan. Having seized power in Afghanistan in September 1979, Amin pounced brutal repressions on party and military cadres, representatives of intelligentsia, Moslem clergy. He did short work of Taraki, the founder of the new Afghan state. About 500 devoted party members were shot by Amin's order.

Having unleashed in the country mass repressions against those strata of society which the April revolution of 1978 rested upon and having created an atmosphere of terror, Amin schemed to stage a state coup d'etat jointly with ring-leaders of counterrevolutionary forces on December 29, 1979, to exterminate all honest leaders and party activists devoted to the revolution and to establish in the country his dictatorship.

All that received approval of the CIA which, according to the statement of the minister of the interior of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, pointed out that the Hafizollah Amin regime, considering its inner evolution, quite meets the durable interests of the United States. Assurances were received in Kabul from Washington that "in case of need" the initiators of the coup would be backed by "the might of the U.S. Armed Forces."

It is not difficult to imagine that had Amin and his clique not been disclosed and rendered harmless in good time, Afghanistan would have been in for a tragedy like that now experienced by the people of Chile and which was experienced by the people of Kampuchea during usurper Pol Pot's rule. And how great Washington's hypocrisy is if it bemoans today Amin as a "lawful president of Afghanistan," and it kept silent when Amin perpetrated his crimes.

BRZEZINSKI VISIT TO PAKISTAN 'SIGNAL OF ALARM'

LD310010 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced in Washington that a military-political delegation led by President Carter's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski is leaving for Pakistan. Comment is by our observer Viktor Glazunov:

Brzezinski's moves are known to be an omen of evil. He is referred to as the architect of Washington's current foreign policy and is a hallmark of the cold war. He is the author of the concept of an instability arc stretching from Southeast Asia across the Middle East to the northeast of Africa. According to Brzezinski's views--officially accepted in Washington--this arc should be reinforced in the way it suits Washington. It should be reinforced by every means including gunboat diplomacy and big-stick policy. And Pakistan is a link in this arc.

This explains why a trip to Pakistan by a U.S. military-political delegation led by Brzezinski is a signal of alarm. It is common knowledge that for a long time now Pakistan has been used as a bridgehead for subversive activities against Democratic Afghanistan and intervention in that country. Groups of terrorists and saboteurs are being trained at special camps under the guidance of American and Chinese instructors. These groups are supplied with American and Chinese arms. During the recent talks in Beijing the U.S. defense minister reached an agreement on coordinating actions against Afghanistan from the territory of Pakistan.

After that the Chinese foreign minister, during his stay in Pakistan, found it necessary to pay a special visit to the camps where the terrorists are trained. And now a military-political delegation from the United States is on its way to that country. It is indicative that the trip coincides with the announcement of a merger between six groupings of Afghan counterrevolutionaries who have entrenched themselves in Pakistan. They set themselves the goal of destroying Democratic Afghanistan.

Reports from Pakistan say that hundreds of lorries have been transporting weapons and explosives from the port of Karachi to the Pakistani-Afghan border.

According to evidence given by terrorist saboteurs captured in Afghanistan, a plan has already been drawn up to attack Afghanistan in three directions so as to divide the country into three parts. All indications are that during the American delegation's visit the details of this plan to interfere will be coordinated. Washington intends not only to stifle the Afghan revolution but also to bring more pressure to bear on Iran. All this fits into U.S. strategy to consolidate its presence, its dominance in the Middle East. This reckless strategy is doomed, of course, but it is a source of anxiety.

Military Assistance

LD301932 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Washington, January 30, TASS--In its quest for new beachheads in its aggressive military strategic plans in the Middle East, the U.S. administration is intensifying its hectic diplomatic activity in the region.

The White House press secretary has officially confirmed that the U.S. President's National Security Adviser Z. Brzezinski and Deputy State Secretary W. Christopher are going to Pakistan where on February 2 to 3 they will discuss with the Pakistan leaders the new situation in the region and the creation of the structures for the consolidation of relations with the United States. These negotiations will later be joined by Assistant Defence Secretary D. McGiffert.

The statement of the White House spokesman, who referred to events in Afghanistan, makes it quite evident that the negotiations in Islamabad will focus on the use of Pakistan as a vehicle for U.S. imperialist policy in the Middle East and, in the first place, for subversive activities against the neighbouring Afghanistan. In this connection, one is apt to ask: For how long will the Government of Pakistan be yielding to the pressure of the White House and its envoys of the type of Brzezinski and Christopher and their ilk and to allow the use of Pakistan's territory for waging an undeclared war against the Democratic Afghanistan? The fact is that as follows from a statement by the White House spokesman one of the items of the negotiations in Islamabad will be the giving by the United States of military assistance to Pakistan to the tune of 400 million dollars which, as is known, is chiefly intended for arming and training of gangs of mercenaries infiltrated across the border into Afghanistan. Moreover, informed observers point out that this sum of money cannot be regarded as final. It was exactly this understanding that was placed on the remark by the White House spokesman about Washington's intention to make a substantial contribution to meeting Pakistan's military and economic needs. The spokesman did not hide the fact that the United States is planning to attract to the realisation of these designs other states following in the mainstream of U.S. policy, including Saudi Arabia, which will be the next stopover after Islamabad in Brzezinski's and Christopher's itinerary.

REPORT OF U.S. DIPLOMATS' ESCAPE FROM IRAN CITED

LD301436 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] New York, January 30, TASS--The CBS broadcasting company has reported that a group of officials of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran escaped from Iran with the assistance of American and Canadian special services. Canadian diplomatic passports with forged Iranian visas have been used. At the time of the capture of the American Embassy on November 4 and until recently the six American citizens, who had been by chance outside the U.S. diplomatic mission, were hiding on the territory of the Canadian Embassy. At present, they are believed to be at one of the American military bases in Western Europe.

As is known, the Canadian Government has recently taken a decision to recall all its diplomatic personnel from Tehran. Commenting on this step, the newspaper Washington POST writes today that it has been taken, in particular, in order to cover up the escape of the Americans.

SECRETARY VANCE ON SANCTIONS, PENTAGON'S PREPARATIONS

LD301730 Moscow TASS in English 1713 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Washington, January 30, TASS--The United States is intensifying the economic and military blackmail of Iran. Our sanctions with regard to Iran are actually operating, a White House spokesman said at a press conference. He said the U.S. Government is now working out rules and provisions on the use the United States economic sanctions against Iran.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told newsmen that the administration shortly intends to issue an appropriate directive so as to officially formalize the introduction of the sanctions. The representative of the State Department said that the administration continues to exert an effort to draw Washington's allies into economic measures against Iran.

At the same time, the Pentagon continues large-scale preparations for the implementation of military punitive operations against Iran. Special attention is now being paid to increasing combat preparedness of a corps of marines which, according to press reports, must become the backbone of the "rapid reaction strike force" that is being hastily knocked together. Winter exercises of marines were held in Massachussets State. Landing a large force from the sea was drilled during these exercises. Supported by combat helicopters, an assault group was brought to Cape Cod Peninsula on board ships and seized a "place-d'armes" tanks and armoured carriers were then launched.

The military exercises Empire Glacier-80 continue in north eastern states with the participation of army units and airforce.

Introduction of Sanctions

LD301732 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

["Washington's Course of Blackmail and Threats"--TASS headlines]

[Text] Washington, January 30, TASS--Official Washington intends to continue exerting economic pressure on Iran. U.S. State Secretary Cyrus Vance said on Tuesday that unilateral economic sanctions against Iran had actually been introduced and that the administration was taking measures to formalize them soon. Refusing to look for a mutually acceptable solution of the conflict connected with the holding of a group of members of staff of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the Washington government took from the very start the road of blackmail and threats with regard to Iran. Back in November of last year, it was announced that purchases of Iranian oil were stopped, that Iranian assets in American banks and their branches in Europe are frozen. A report appeared in the local press that the frozen funds are being used by the U.S. banks for paying the debts of the shah's regime. Implementation of commercial agreements with Iran which in the past bought from the United States a considerable volume of food products has been threatened. One gets the impression that Washington's unsuccessful attempt to drag through the Security Council a resolution on other countries joining in the economic boycott of Iran has not cooled hotheads in the White House. The masterminds of U.S. politics who are being egged on by powerful transnational corporations that are coveting oil fields of the Near and Middle East, are trying to usurp the right to interfere arbitrarily in internal affairs of other countries, to dictate their will and to punish those who do not obey.

GROMYKO RECEIVES U.S. AMBASSADOR WATSON

LD301708 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS--Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko today received United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union Thomas Watson at the latter's request. During the conversation, they touched upon matters of Soviet-American relations and also on some international problems.

CARTER'S KOREA POLICY CONTINUES POLICY OF MEDDLING

SK310328 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 30 Jan 80 SK

[Commentary by Mikhaylov]

[Text] The United States plans to continue meddling in the internal affairs of Korea and to use South Korea as a military base in the Far East. This was candidly acknowledged by U.S. President Carter in his State of the Union Message.

Saying that he has decided to maintain the number of U.S. troops in South Korea at the current level, the U.S. President once again reaffirmed that the show of military strength has been and is the basis of U.S. policy toward Asia.

In this regard, the New York TIMES wrote: The current course of the U.S. administration clearly shows that President Carter is completely oblivious to his election promises including the avowed withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea.

In truth, the U.S. troops in South Korea have been reinforced since Carter came to power, who increased the number of servicemen belonging to the navy and the air force. In addition, the U.S.-South Korea combined forces command has been organized, regular joint exercises of the armed forces of the two countries [tu nara] are carried out and the United States is stepping up war preparations in South Korea.

In his State of the Union Message President Carter claimed that respect for the U.S. commitment to the security of South Korea is of great significance for the political developments following the assassination of Pak Chong-hui. The true meaning of this remark remained unclear to the South Korean people until the 12 December incident. On that day, according to Washington's views, the South Korean military leaders who had pushed hard for liberalization were arrested. Similarly, U.S. interference in the internal affairs of South Korea continues.

This is acknowledged by broad social circles in the United States. For instance, in a telegram sent to President Carter at the end of 1979, the U.S. Committee for the Withdrawal of U.S. Troops from South Korea said: The purpose of keeping U.S. troops in South Korea is to prevent progressive democratic reforms from taking place. The telegram said: U.S. economic and military assistance to South Korea is conducive to strengthening the suppression of the South Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists' policy to hold on to South Korea as a military base in the Far East and to make the division of Korea permanent has nothing in common with the true interests of the Korean people and other peoples who advance to consolidate peace and security, and mutual understanding and good neighborliness on the Asian Continent.

FOREIGN MINISTER DOST HITS TALKS OF 'AFGHAN QUESTION' AT ISLAMABAD

LD301916 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Our special correspondents Farid Seyful-Mulykov and Viktor Bazilevich report from Kabul:

First a few facts and figures to separate the political demagogy of the defenders of the Afghan Muslims from true reality:

One Afghan in 10 makes a hadj or pilgrimage to the holy cities of the Muslims--Sunni or Shi'ite--to Mecca, Medina and Najaf. We saw for ourselves a few days ago Afghan pilgrims leaving by aircraft or bus on this religious journey.

The study of Islam is compulsory in all the country's general education schools. There is a theology department at Kabul University. Just as before the April revolution all mosques and medersas are open in Afghanistan and all religious festivals are marked. For instance, 29 January, the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed was a holiday in Afghanistan as in other Muslim countries. Many Afghans that day saw Babrak Karmal and other Afghan leaders on television praying at the main mosque in Kabul.

So the question arises just what is the freedom of Islamic religion in today's Afghanistan which was being demanded by those taking part in the Islamabad conference? What is the freedom for which detachments of armed mercenaries are fighting?

In Kabul we were received by Shah Mohammad Dost, foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. This is what he said about the Islamabad conference which discussed the situation in Afghanistan:

The collapse of the Amin regime and our country's entry into a new stage of the April revolution, Shah Mohammad Dost said, foiled the plans of American reactionaries with respect to Afghanistan and the region. Since the end of December they have thus been making every efforts to distort the intentions behind the events in Afghanistan and to defame the new government and its relations with the Soviet Union. This was precisely what was behind the provocative raising of the question of the situation in Afghanistan for consideration by the UN Security Council and General Assembly.

With the same aims imperialist and reactionary circles resorted to convening the conference in Islamabad. Dost stressed: We have set out clearly and precisely our position, which has been expressed in the message of reply from the Afghan Government to the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, in a special statement from the Afghanistan Foreign Ministry and in speeches by Babrak Karmal.

We regard the discussion which took place on the trumped-up Afghan question at the conference of Islamic states and the decision adopted on this question, as gross interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs and as an intrusion into national interests and sovereignty.

[Moscow World Service in English at 2100 GMT on 30 January adds the following to the above item: The calls for financial and military aid for the forces of counterrevolution inspired by Washington and Beijing will lead to an aggravation of the situation in our region, said Shah Mohammad Dost. All this goes to show that the Islamabad conference accords with the objectives of imperialism and reaction and runs counter to the national interests of the nations of the Muslim world.

[Their main achievement isunity in the struggle against the plots of the United States, Israel and other forces hostile to the Muslims, forces that are responsible for military tensions in the Near East, in the Persian Gulf zone, and in the basin of the Indian Ocean.

[The foreign minister recalled Babrak Karmal's recent address to the Muslims of Afghanistan and to the entire Islamic world. He declared that the Islamic religion and the customs of the nation were part and parcel of the national culture of Afghanistan. The Revolutionary Council and the Afghan Government solemnly declare that they respect and will continue to respect freedom of conscience, the people's traditions, and they guaranteed freedom to observe religious cults and rituals. The Muslims of Afghanistan want to build a peaceful life and do not need false guardians, the foreign minister said in conclusion.]

Rejection of Resolution

LD310821 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 31 Jan 80 LD

["Contrary to Logic"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--"The attempts of the USA and Maoist China to pit the Moslem countries against us have aroused indignation among the Afghan people," a PRAVDA correspondent was told by Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mohammed Dost. With this aim, the minister said, they have done everything in their power to instigate Saudi Arabia, Egypt and some other reactionary regimes to the convocation of a session of the Islamic Conference Organization. It is not by chance that the venue of such a conference was the capital of Pakistan, a country which has become a base for the concentration of anti-Afghan counter-revolutionary forces. In payment for such a "service" Washington appropriated hundreds of millions of dollars for Pakistan for purchasing arms. "We hold, the minister said, that the convocation of the conference and the provocative malicious attacks at it against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR serve in the first place the interests of imperialism and world reaction. Meanwhile, the main objective of the Moslem countries is to strengthen unity in the anti-imperialist struggle, in the struggle against their main enemies--U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism. The latter countries continue hatching plots against the peoples of the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and in the Indian Ocean area."

The Islamic conference in Islamabad, the minister went on to say, has not become a true expression of the views of all the Moslem countries. And as it was clear from the very outset that the convocation of such a conference could serve only the interests of imperialism and reaction in the region, Afghanistan has decided to refrain from attending it. Our government's stand on the conference is similar to that we held on the convocation of the Security Council and special U.N. session on the so-called "Afghan question". This is interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. And for this reason we reject the anti-Afghan resolution passed in Islamabad as one running counter to Islamic solidarity in the world, the Afghan minister said in conclusion.

AFGHAN INTERIOR MINISTER SCORES CHINESE PROPAGANDA AS 'MALICIOUS'

LD301305 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Jan 80 p 9 LD

[TASS correspondents Yu. Kornilov and R. Musin interview with Afghan Interior Minister S.M. Golabzoy under the rubric "Material Answer": "There, in the Mountains of Badakhshan. The DRA Interior Minister on a Chinese Newspaper Article"--date of interview not specified; first paragraph is LITERATURNAYA GAZETA introduction]

[Text] The Chinese newspaper RENMIN RIBAO has published a long article on the situation in Afghanistan which claims that some sort of "mass partisan movement fighting for the country's freedom" is developing in the DRA [Democratic Republic of Afghanistan]: On behalf of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA TASS correspondents in Kabul Yu. Kornilov and R. Musin asked S.M. Golabzoy, DRA minister of the interior, to comment on these claims by Beijing propaganda.

"There is an old Afghan proverb that says: 'Give a liar his way and he will try to turn a jackal into an eagle,'" S.M. Golabzoy said. "That proverb cannot help coming to mind when you read RENMIN RIBAO's concoction regarding the situation in Afghanistan. Breaking all records for lies, this mouthpiece of Beijing propaganda tries to portray as virtually some sort of 'people's movement' the criminal actions of counterrevolutionary terrorist gangs being moved into the DRA's territory from outside and in whose training Beijing takes a direct and increasingly active part.

"Right from the start of the April revolution Beijing has acted and continues to act as an enemy of revolutionary Afghanistan and its people. The open threats against the DRA heard from Beijing during U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown's recent visit to China, the overtly provocative trip by Beijing Foreign Minister Huang Hua to Pakistan, whose territory is used by imperialism and reaction as the main springboard for organizing armed raids on the DRA--all that is evidence that the Beijing hegemonists intend to continue to step up their hostile activity against our country. As for scribblings like the article that has appeared in RENMIN RIBAO, they are nothing but a kind of 'propaganda cover' for the Beijing leadership's hegemonist course.

"It is well known that throughout the 20 months since the April revolution imperialist forces and Beijing, which acts in concert with them, have been waging 'undeclared war' against sovereign Afghanistan. No fewer than 50 strongpoints and at least 20 special bases at which Beijing and American 'advisers' knock together counterrevolutionary anti-Afghan formations have been created on Pakistan's territory in order to wage this war. According to data available to us, about 40,000 bandits are undergoing 'training' in China itself. These formations have been set the task of illegally entering DRA territory and undermining the April revolution's gains at all costs, by any methods, including sabotage, murder and terror. How cynical one must be to try, as RENMIN RIBAO does, to protray these armed counterrrevolutionary mercenaries as 'Afghan partisans'!

"Pursuing its great-power militarist course and threatening to 'teach a lesson' to all who refuse to make their policy according to the latter-day Chinese emperors' prescriptions, Beijing makes impetuous territorial claims against its neighbors, and Afghanistan is no exception: The Chinese leadership has long coveted the mountainous Afghan province of Badakhshan, which adjoins China. The Afghan-Chinese border is only 70 km long, but Beijing and the Chinese military and special services have turned each one of those kilometers into a springboard for aggressive armed raids on the sovereign DRA. [paragraph continues]

Not a day goes by in Badakhshan without bandit gangs being moved into Afghanistan from the Chinese side, and Beijing 'advisers' systematically participate with their 'proteges' in the raids on our soil. Up there in the mountains of Badakhshan the bandits rampage with particular brutality and sophistication. They burn peaceful villages, blow up hospitals and schools, brutally settle scores with People's Democratic Party of Aghanistan activists, bury people alive and shoot schoolchildren. It is not these 'exploits' by the terrorists and their Chinese 'trainers' that delight RENMIN RIBAO?

"Beijing propaganda claims that almost some kind of 'anti-government mass movement' is developing in Afghanistan. But it is as well known in Beijing as anywhere else that it is the Afghan people themselves who are actively helping our army and militia subunits to neutralize the bandit gangs knocked together by Beijing and American 'advisers'. DRA Interior Ministry operational communiques are increasingly often recording instances where the inhabitants of a particular region themselves catch bandits, disarm them and take them to the party committees or security organs. It is the people's support that is enabling us to eliminate the bandit formations in a timely fashion. In short, however you look at the situation in Afghanistan, things just do not add up for the RENMIN RIBAO slanderers. Their provocative fantasies about 'Afghan partisans' are an ill-intentioned attempt to denigrate Afghanistan and at the same time divert the interntional public's attention from their own aggressive actions aimed at blatantly interfering in our country's affairs and undermining its independence and sovereignty.

"Relying on the aid of our true and reliable friend the Soviet Union, the Afghan people are fully determined to defend and augment the revolution's gains," S.M. Golabzoy said in conclusion, "and neither the raids by counterrevolutionary gangs armed by the United States and China, nor the malicious attacks of Western and Beijing slanderers will succeed in shaking this determination."

IZVESTIYA NOTES GRATITUDE TO USSR EXPRESSED BY AFGHAN STUDENTS

LD301435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Lukashin dispatch: "The Soviet Union Is Our Friend: Afghan Students Talking"]

[Text] Sofia--The Khristo Botev student complex is one of the capital's largest districts where young men and women, who have come to Bulgaria from many countries of the world, live and study. Among the multitude of blocks I find block No 42 B where the student emissaries of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan live.

(Masdzhedi Khevadmal), a fourth year student in Sofia University's law faculty introduces me to his friends. The conversation develops easily. True, these young men are somewhat agitated; they have just received mail from Afghanistan. They are happy about the good news from their homeland. At the same time they are indignant about the fuss which Western propaganda is making over the so-called "Afghan question."

They have all already read the newspapers which published Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions. A precise and principled evaluation of the Soviet Union's position in international affairs and a fitting rebuff to the slanderous campaign unleashed in the West over the Soviet Union's granting of selfless fraternal assistance to Afghanistan to repel foreign aggression--this is how the Afghan students unanimously described Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's replies.

"We are glad about the changes which are occuring in Afghanistan," said (Abdol Vakhed Amin Nazari) a student in the film-production department, "and of course we are grateful to the Soviet Union. It was the first to extend us a friendly helping hand."

(Akbar Akhgar), a post graduate in Sofia Univeristy's department of economic geography joins the conversation:

"I agree with (Abdol). Were it not for Soviet help our motherland's sovereignty and territorial integrity, gained in the April revolution, would have been destroyed. Soviet soldiers have on several occasions come to the assistance of peoples struggling against the dark forces of imperialism and reaction. Now they have saved Afghanistan. We are profoundly grateful to your servicemen."

"Do you know who helped the counterrevolution?" asks (Fazluddin Mokbeli Paktiaval), postgraduate in the department of international relations, and then supplies the answer himself: "Cairo, Tel-Aviv and Beijing, while Washington guides this threesome. You ask what it is that the imperialists do not like. My answer is, in the first place, the liberation of thousands of political prisoners; new schools and hospitals are opening in the country, hundreds of thousands of peasants have received land and new measures are being implemented to fulfil the national 5-year plan."

One senses that by nature (Mohammad Same), a fifth year student in the law department, is a reserved person, but listening to his friends he burns with the desire to express his viewpoint.

"One is surprised by the position of certain states whose representatives spoke at the UN General Assembly. The discussion of the 'Afghan question' is impertinent interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. The fuss kicked up by the United States and its allies is pure demagogy and provocation."

The young men nod their heads in approval. One senses the heartache behind everything that has been discussed and that is why they are certain of their opinions.

"Our countries are linked by decades of friendship. This friendship has stood the test. Despite the intrigues of the enemies of the revolution we will never turn from the path. We will triumph!" says (Masdzhedi Khevadmal) while leaving, and he adds: "When you speak with Moscow tell them that the Afghan students say 'Thank you!'."

AFGHAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE CONDEMNS U.S. OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

LD311020 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 31 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, January 31, TASS--The attempts by a number of states and first of all by the USA to interfere in matters connected with the holding of the Olympic games in Moscow basically contradict the very spirit and principles of the Olympic movement. Those attempts are incompatible with the principles of friendship, cooperation and peaceful coexistence of states. This is stated in the letter from the leadership of Afghanistan's National Olympic Committee (NOC) to the United States President Carter. The text of the letter is circulated by the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY today.

The National Olympic committee of the DRA and all the sports organizations of the country are resolutely demanding that the President of the United States cease interfering in the affairs of the DRA and put an end to attempts at preventing the holding of the Olympic games in Mosocw. The NOC of the DRA and all the sports organizations of Afghanistan are demanding that President Carter realize the importance of the Olympic games and discontinue attempts at distorting and misrepresenting the true goals, atmosphere and purity of the Olympic and sports movement.

Indian Statement

LD281726 Moscow TASS in English 1147 GMT 28 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, January 28, TASS-Indian athletes and sports organizations are expressing a resolute protest against the intention of certain political circles in a number of Western countries to foil the Olympic games of 1980. The General Council of the Indian Olympic Association unanimously adopted on Sunday a resolution in support of the decision of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on the holding of the Olympic games of 1980 in Moscow. The resolution says that the Indian Olympic Association does not support the threat to boycott the holding of the Olympic-80 games in Moscow on political grounds.

As is pointed out by the influential Indian newspapers PATRIOT and INDIAN EXPRESS this resolution has been also supported by the President of the Amateur Athletics Federation of India Buta Singh and President of theDelhi Olympic Association V.K. Malhotra.

INDIAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES USSR-INDIA RELATIONS AT MOSCOW MEETING

LD281339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Friendship Tested by Time"]

[Text] Soviet-Indian relations, tested by time, serve the peoples' vital interests and the cause of peace and security. The two countries' friendship is strengthened and cemented by trust, mutual understanding and cooperation. This was spoken of at a ceremony in Moscow on 23 January devoted to India's national holiday--the 30th anniversary of Republic Day, and the opening of a 10-day Soviet-Indian friendship festival in our country.

A report was delivered by N.V. Goldin, president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society and USSR minister.

I.K. Gujral, Indian ambassador to the USSR, who spoke at the meeting, stating that friendship with the Soviet Union has always been the cornerstone of his country's foreign policy and remains so to this day.

We in India, the speaker went on, are very grateful to the Soviet Union for the consistent moral and material support it has given us in the cause of national reconstruction. Close friendly contacts between our countries are developing successfully in all spheres.

Taking part in the meeting were P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, figures in science and culture, representatives of public organizations and holders of the J. Nehru Prize.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES VIETNAMESE ENVOY IN KREMLIN

LD302242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] In connection with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Vietnam, Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium received Nguyen Huu Khieu, SRV ambassador to the USSR, in the Kremlin today.

During their conversation confidence was expressed in the further expansion and deepening of Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in all spheres and consolidation of the links between the CPSU and the Vietnam Communist Party as well as between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples.

MEETING MARKS VCP ANNIVERSARY, SRV-USSR RELATIONS

LD310003 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] A solemn public meeting was held in Moscow today dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Vietnam Communist Party and the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Vietnam Communist Party and the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Vietnam.

Warmly welcomed by those present, Nguyen Huu Khieu, SRV ambassador in the USSR, made a speech at the meeting. He said in part: By a fortuitous coincidence of circumstances, says Comrade Nguyen Huu Khieu, the Vietnamese people are marking two great dates simultaneously--the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. Every victory of the Vietnamese revolution achieved over the past 50 years contains a portion of the contribution made by Soviet communists and the Soviet people. There is a Vietnamese proverb which says: "When you drink water, think about where it has come from." In rejoicing over the brilliant victory of its revolutionary struggle, the Vietnamese people recall the noble spiritual impulse and the enormous contribution made by the Soviet people.

Closing the meeting, Comrade Nguyen Huu Khieu, at the request of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Communist Party presented as a gift to the CPSU Central Committee the just completed documentary film "Ho Chi Minh on the Lenin trail."

SRV AMBASSADOR MAKES TELEVISION APPEARANCE

LD302027 Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS--"The Communist Party of Vietnam has always considered friendship with the Soviet Union as its principled and firm course," stressed the ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the USSR Nguyen Huu Khieu in his Soviet television appearance today.

"This friendship, said the ambassador, rests on the firm foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. It is steadily developing and strengthening. After the signing of the Vietnamese-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in 1978 the relations between the two countries entered a new stage, becoming deeper in content and assuming diversified forms. The Soviet people consistently give all-round support to the Vietnamese people in the defence and construction of their motherland. We are grateful to the CPSU and the Soviet state with Leonid Brezhnev at the head, to the Soviet people for their noble feelings and deeds." "The Vietnamese people, stressed the Vietnamese ambassador, resolutely supports the Soviet Union which rendered the Afghan people the timely all-round aid on the basis of proletarian internationalism and in connection with plans of American imperialism and Beijing reactionaries to undermine the gains of the April revolution."

SRV COMMENTS ON PRC'S REFUSAL TO ATTEND BORDER TALKS

LD291352 Moscow TASS in English 1052 GMT 29 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Beijing, January 29, TASS--The governmental delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Vietnamese-Chinese negotiations issued here today a statement for the press in connection with China's unilateral refusal from holding [as received] the next meeting of the Vietnamese-Chinese negotiations. In the statement it is stressed that over a month that passed since the previous meeting at the negotiations the Chinese side did not advance any proposal on the date of the next meeting in the second round of the negotiations. When the Vietnamese delegation suggested that the meeting be held at any time in the period from January 28 to 31, the Chinese side declined that initiative by saying that "the head of the Chinese delegation was too busy."

The governmental delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam declares that the refusal of the Chinese side from holding the next meeting under different pretexts cannot be interpreted otherwise but the lack of China's good will in the question of the search for a negotiated solution of the problems existing between the two countries.

The Vietnamese delegation on its part reaffirms its readiness to continue the negotiations with a view to restore peace and stability in the frontier areas of both countries and normal relations between China and Vietnam.

MASHEROV-LED SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION VISITS VIETNAM

For Vietnamese coverage of the Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to Vietnam see the Vietnam section of the 30 January Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

ARMY PAPER REPORTS ON LPLA ANNIVERSARY

LD251319 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Dispatch written specially for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA by APN correspondent A. Zhakov: "Guarding Its Borders: The Lao National Liberation Army is 31 Years Old"]

[Excerpts] Luang Prabang-Vientiane--The heroic 1st Battalion, which was awarded this lofty title for its part in combat operations to liberate the country's northern regions, is deployed on one of the neighboring hills. Battalion Commander (Khiyeng Kham), a regular soldier, began his military career in a partisan detachment.

"I remember," he told me, "the enthusiasm with which we greeted the news that in the neighboring province of Sam Neua the first regular detachment of patriotic forces had been created under the command of Kaysone Phomvihan, now general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. This happened on 20 January 1949, since then we have celebrated this day as the birthday of the Lao People's Liberation Army [LPLA]."

During 31 years of war the LPLA, under party leadership, has traveled a grim and hard but glorious path.

"The life of our armed forces is inseparable from the history of Laos and its brave people, who have borne all the rigors of war," (Khiyeng Kham) continued. "I have had occasion to take part in many combat operations and to travel all over the country. [paragraph continues]

No hardships could break us. We emerged from them toughened, experienced and with firm faith in our motherland's bright future. We never felt alone, since we had on our side help and support from the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other socialist states. Their experience was invaluable to our revolution and to the building of our armed forces. Two years ago I returned from a period of study in the USSR. The knowledge I gained in your country I am now putting into practice, and I still keep abreast of the achievements of Soviet military science."

Four years ago peace came to Laos. But since then the forces of international reaction, especially Beijing, have been trying to interfere with the people's creative labor. Right now there are seven Chinese divisions on the Lao border. Beijing agents are inciting national minorities to armed acts against the people's power. The Maoists have no qualms about which means to use. They will use any means--lying, propaganda, intimidation, bribery or pinning their hopes on "the black general" (Vang Pao), who became "famous" during the years of imperialist aggression for his active collaboration with the CIA and who has now been taken under Beijing's wing. "But," Khamfa Folmisay [commander of the northern military district], told me, "it is becoming increasingly obvious that it is futile to try to cause a split among our people."

The LPLA is vigilantly guarding the motherland's borders. "On the one hand," the newspaper SIANG PASASON wrote recently, "we are confidently wielding picks, hammers and sickles in order to build our country's future, while on the other we are holding tight to our rifles, redoubling our vigilence, and are ready at any moment to fight the good fight and will allow nobody to trample our independence and territorial integrity."

With each passing year the fraternal ties between the USSR and Laos are expanding. An important part is played in this by contacts between the two countries' armed forces, by the exchange of delegations and the mutual enrichment gained from sharing experience.

EXHIBITION MARKS 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF LPLA

LD281041 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[V. Starshinov article: "Devoted to a Fraternal Army"]

[Text] An exhibition to mark the 31st anniversary of the Lao People's Liberation Army opened on 18 January in the Central Museum of the USSR Armed Forces. The numerous exhibits trace in detail the history of the Lao patiots' heroic struggle against foreign colonialists and for the triumph of people's power. The exhibition's centerpiece is devoted to fraternal and indissoluble Soviet-Lao friendship.

The opening ceremony was attended by officers and generals of the Soviet Armed Forces, soldiers from the Moscow garrison and representatives of the capital's public.

Those present were addressed by (In Keosovang), military, naval and air attache at the Lao Embassy in the USSR. The opening ceremony was attended by (Somkeo Nongvongsitkhi), Lao charge d'affaires ad interim in the Soviet Union.

TANJUG CITED ON TIME 'FABRICATION' ON SOVIET THREAT

LD301608 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

["Fabrication Refuted"--TASS headline]

[Text] Belgrade, January 30, TASS--The American TIME magazine has printed a fabrication alleging that in response to a "personal request" from President Tito of Yugoslavia President Carter had assured him that the United States would "come to Yugoslavia's assistance" should that country, as stated by the magazine, be "attacked by the Russians." TANJUG agency refuted the American fabrication and called it a sheer invention. Bourgeois prophecies about the future of Yugoslavia, the contentions about the introduction of a "state of emergency" in the country, the contentions about the introduction of a situation in a distorted light. This biased, irresponsible and false information is totally unacceptable.

AMBASSADOR CONGRATULATES CEAUSESCU ON BIRTHDAY

AU261543 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 26 Jan 80 AU

[Text] Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, today received Vasiliy Ivanovich Drozdenko, USSR ambassador to Bucharest, at the latter's request.

The Soviet ambassador said he has the great honor of extending to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, on his birthday, warmest congratulations and wishes for much health and new successes in his particularly important activity at the head of our party and state, on behalf of Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, and of the other members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. He also expressed the hope that relations of friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and RCP and between the Soviet Union and Romania will develop to the benefit of the Romanian and Soviet peoples and in the interest of the cause of socialism and peace.

Thanking the ambassador for the congratulations addressed to him on behalf of Comrade Ilich Brezhnev and the other members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu said that he considers them an expression of good relations between our parties and peoples. The RCP secretary general expressed his conviction and that of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee that good relations between the RCP and CPSU and between the two countries will also continue to develop in the future, to the benefit of interests of both peoples and in the interest of the overall cause of socialism, detente and peace in the world. The meeting proceeded in a warm and comradely atmosphere.

ROMANIAN, USSR DEPUTY PREMIERS CONFER ON FOOD COOPERATION

ID280845 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] On 16 January Z.N. Buriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received A. Miculescu, Romanian deputy prime minister.

During the conversation, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, questions of further expanding cooperation between the countries in the sphere of agriculture and food sectors of industry, were touched upon.

A.A. Yezhevskiy, chairman of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, and also G. Badrus, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

GILASHVILI RECEIVES OUTGOING ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR

LD280847 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Text] TASS--On 16 January P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received G. Badrus, the Romanian ambassador in the Soviet Union, in connection with his final departure for home.

New Ambassador's Arrival

LD301255 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--Traian Dudas, Romanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 24 January.

POLITICAL, MILITARY FIGURES MARK WARSAW LIBERATION DATE

LD281013 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Glorious Anniversary"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of the public from the city of Moscow and servicemen of the capital's garrison devoted to the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw was held 15 January in the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army. The meetings presidium included P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; CPSU Central Committee executives P.K. Kostikov and V.A. Svetlov; A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society; I.N. Ponomarev, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services; Col Gen G.V. Sredin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General A.I. Gribkov, chief of staff of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, and generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces and the Polish People's Army.

The presidium also included K. Olszewski, Polish ambassador to the USSR, and Division General J. Szczensnowicz, army, navy and air force attache at the Polish Embassy in the Soviet Union.

The meeting was opened by I.N. Ponomarev, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

A report on the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw from the fascist German occupiers was delivered by Army General S.K. Kurkotkin.

The meeting was addressed by K. Olszewski, Polish ambassador to the USSR, who stressed that the Polish working people will never forget the selfless aid given to their mother-land in the days of severe trials.

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH POLAND ON LEGAL RELATIONS

LD251133 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 24 Jan 80 LD

[Text] On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, a protocol was signed yesterday to the agreement between the Soviet Union and Poland on legal aid and legal relations connected with civil, family and penal codes concluded in December 1957.

It provides for an extensive system of collaboration and mutual aid between legal institutions of the Soviet Union and Poland in guaranteeing and meeting the legal requirements and requests of citizens of one of the two states of the territory of the other signatory to the agreement. The changes introduced by the protocol extend the framework of the states' legal cooperation and are in accord with the tasks of further developing and tightening friendship between the Soviet and Polish peoples, and the increased protection of the legal rights and interests of citizens of the Soviet Union and of the Polish People's Republic. The protocol was signed by Vladimir Terebilov, Soviet minister of justice, and Jerzy Bafia, minister of justice of the Polish People's Republic.

Today Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received the delegation of the Polish People's Republic led by Minister Jerzy Bafia. Taking part in the talk were Vladimir Terebilov, and also Kazimierz Olszewski, Polish ambassador to the Soviet Union.

HUNGARY, USSR SIGN TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1980

LD302200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 29 Jan 80 LD

[Text] A protocol on trade exchange between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Soviet Union for 1980 was signed in Moscow today. Adolf Federer, Hungarian trade representative in the Soviet Union, is at our microphone:

[Begin recording] This protocol marks a new stage in cooperation between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Soviet Union. Reciprocal trade turnover will exceed 5 billion roubles this year. A practical form and further development will be given to such forms of cooperation as coordination, specialisation and the fulfillment of CEMA programs. Hungary will take an active part in building the Khmelnitskiy atomic power station, power from which will be supplied via the line to Albertirsa to Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Our deliveries to the Ust-Ilim pulp combine will continue. This year, Hungarian industry will fulfill major Soviet orders this year for the manufacture of electro-technical equipment and will supply (?new) gantry and floating cranes for Soviet ports, equipment for the food industry and over 6,000 Ikarus buses. As for consumer goods, we will produce these to Soviet orders to a value of over 500 million roubles. There will also be further development this year in our joint work in the sphere of processing aluminum and the production of olefins. In turn, the Soviet Union will supply Hungary with oil, gas and electricity. Soviet factories will make large consignments of agricultural machines, motor vehicles and machine tools for Hungary. Deliveries of equipment for our first atomic power station and for a new powerful convertor shop for the Danube iron works. This entire program will serve the further consolidation of the Hungarian economy and the expansion of our close fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Union. [End recording]

DEMICHEV DISCUSSES CULTURAL TIES WITH HUNGARIAN OFFICIAL

LD280841 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 17 January P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, received a Hungarian delegation headed by F. Molnar, state secretary at the Hungarian Ministry of Culture.

Questions of expanding and deepening Soviet-Hungarian cultural cooperation were discussed during the friendly conversation.

UK STOCKPILES CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

LD302346 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Armen Oganesyan commentary]

[Text] A BBC television program today quoted army officers of the military school in Camberley as saying that the Soviet Union was stepping up the production of chemical weapons. The officers also expressed the hope that Britain would retaliate in some way. Armen Oganesyan of Radio Moscow now comments:

One can draw the conclusion that the anti-Soviet campaign is taking another twist. After all, the noise about the so-called Soviet threat has to be kept up at a proper level. Yesterday the main theme was tanks. Now it is the turn of chemical weapons.

The remarks of the Camberley officers about the need for some retaliatory measures served to justify the fact that an enormous amount of poisonous substances capable of contaminating the skin, the respiratory organs and the nervous system have been stockpiled in Britain. Many of these so-called (?silent) death weapons are stored at a NATO depot in Caerwent. Simultaneously current research at the military laboratories concentrates on the most toxic and lethal chemical substances and germs which affect not only man but also the environment. Already this year poisonous substances will be tested at the new testing grounds near (?porton down). "Hunter" planes equipped with special spraying devices will imitate a chemical attack.

The pertinent question to be asked at this point is, what is the reason for these large-scale preparations for chemical warfare against the Soviet Union? It is common knowledge that both the Soviet Union and Britain signed the Geneva convention banning the use of chemical weapons back in 1925. The facts show that it is precisely the Conservative government which is engaged in provocative preparations for chemical and germ warfare. One can even conclude that the Tories see in these preparations a most important element in boosting Britain's prestige as a NATO member, for she is the main producer and supplier of chemical weapons to the other NATO members. Moreover, with the help of Britain, the United States too is stockpiling chemical weapons.

Recently the United States received a shipment of about 1 million grenades filled with poison gases. Since this fact cannot be hidden from the British public, perhaps this action can be justified. Seen in this light, is it not the reason for concern being expressed from the television screen about a chemical threat allegedly emanating from the Soviet Union?

UK CANNOT PUNISH USSR BY BOYCOTTING OLYMPICS

LD310021 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Next we have vantage point. With the pro-American conservative press in Britain screaming holy murder in a bid to disrupt the summer Olympic games in Moscow, Boris Belitskiy today looks at what is behind this campaign:

You probably remember that this is not the first time the Tory controlled media have sought to torpedo the Moscow games. No sooner did the Olympic Committee decide to hold the 1980 games in Moscow than the attacks began. Would Moscow be able to handle so big a project? Would the building work be completed in time? Would there be enough hotel accommodation in the city? These were only a few of the questions Tory papers began asking in as catty and spiteful a tone as possible.

Gradually, as it became obvious that all these thinly veiled sneers were nothing but wishful thinking, various contrived political arguments were invented to start conditioning the public mind to accept the idea of a boycott of the Moscow games. Now, taking their cue from the American administration, and indeed trying to out-Tory them, the Conservatives have launched a full-scale attack on the Moscow games, and on the entire Olympic movement for good measure.

Some of the Tory spokesmen and newspapers do not even bother to present any cogent arguments. The Soviet authorities, they simply scream, have invested heavily in the games. A boycott would cause them enormous losses. Now a boycott is of course out of the question. Indeed, one sometimes gets the impression that the Tory politicians have overlooked one simple fact: that it is not they but athletes who are invited to the Olympic games. But even supposing for a moment, just for the sake of argument, that the efforts to wreck the Olympic games did succeed, would this really cause the Soviet Union heavy losses? Nothing of the kind. To begin with, all the Olympic facilities in this country have been built so as to make them useful to the people after the games. For example, the Olympic village has been built as an integral part of Moscow's housing program. When the games are over, 15,000 people will move into this new housing development.

Those who speak of punishing the Soviets financially have probably done their arithmetic on the basis of the costs of the Montreal, Munich or Tokyo games. It is true the Tokyo games, for example, cost their organizers nearly $3 billion. But the bulk of this--some $205 billion--went into the infrastructure needed for the games, not for Tokyo. In our case the games are costing a mere 230 million rubles. As for the infrastructure, well, for the reasons I explained, all this housing, the roads, the hotels, are not expenditures on the games at all. All this is something that would have been built anyway. The games have just hastened it. So the Olympic wreckers cannot possibly punish the Soviets financially, although they can wreck the Olympic movement.

ITALIAN BUSINESSMAN OUTLINES TRADE TIES WITH USSR

LD281422 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 28 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Italian business circles support the further development of trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. Here is what our correspondent in Italy, Valeriy Prostakov, was told by Carlo Sarchi, director of the Foreign Relations Directorate of the ENI national enterprise.

Above all, says Carlo Sarchi, it is necessary to talk about the energy sources which constitute the bulk of ENI's imports from the Soviet Union. In 1979 we received more than 6 billion cubic meters of Soviet methane through the trans-Europe gas pipeline--this is approximately one quarter of all the natural gas consumed annually in Italy. Apart from this we regularly get Soviet oil every year. Total deliveries amount to almost 40 percent of all Italian imports from the Soviet Union.

We link development of further contacts with Soviet organizations with the 11th 5-Year Plan now being drafted in the Soviet Union, Carlo Sarchi continued. ENI is planning to expand cooperation in various fields of mutual interest. For instance, producing protein from sunflower seed for animal husbandry fodder, the chemistry of carbon monoxide and uranium enrichment technology. We are discussing with the Soviet Ministries of the Gas and Petroleum Industries the possibilities of jointly planning implementing new methods of prospecting, and raising the productiveness of existing wells. So, the results of our cooperation are successful and the 11th 5-Year Plan will open up even greater prospects before us.

PORTUGAL'S NEW FOREIGN POLICY 'INSTRUMENT OF IMPERIALISM'

LD301314 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1930 GMT 29 Jan 80 LD

[Yaroslav Khabarov commentary]

[Text] The so-called Democratic Alliance based its election campaign on the slogan of the need for radical changes in Portugal. The changes promised by the conservative coalition were not long coming. In this connection our observer Yaroslav Khabarov writes:

Considering the first steps taken by the Sa Carneiro government it should be noted that they are basically aimed at trying to drag Portugal into the international campaign of anti-Sovietism and anticommunism mounted in the last few weeks by the forces of U.S. imperialism and by the aggressive circles of the NATO bloc.

Under cover of declarations of solidarity with the West, the government has actually commenced a broad revision of Portugal's formerly independent foreign policy. It is relevant to point out in this connection that since the liberation of Portugal from the yoke of the fascist dictatorship virtually all the Portuguese government's pursued, to a greater or lesser extent, the line mapped out by the 1976 Constitution, successfully took steps toward developing ties of friendship and cooperation with all the countries of the world regardless of social system, and based their policy on the principles of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

This policy bore good fruits. Portugal became a fully fledged member of the international community and benefitted politically and materially from the diversification of its political and economic ties.

The foreign policy announced in the parliament by the Sa Carneiro government is a policy of international confrontation linked to a new spiral in the arms race planned by the Pentagon and by the aggressive circles of NATO, and to the worsening of the international situation caused by the plans to deploy new nuclear missiles imposed by Washington on Western Europe.

A resolution of the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party stresses that the Sa Carneiro government is not only playing an adventurist and extremist role in the campaign to undermine the process of European detente but has also taken upon itself that of active mouthpiece of the forces of imperialism, prophet of a new cold war.

Analyzing the policies of the center-right government, the Portuguese communists rightly underline that national independence and sovereignty are inseparable from the development and strengthening of external ties and from the pursuit of a policy of peace and friendship with all peoples as envisaged in the 1976 Constitution.

The goals of the present foreign policy are clear: It is aimed at undermining Portugal's relations with the socialist countries, at submitting Portugal to the dictate of NATO and at turning the country into an instrument of the aggressive policy of imperialism, as happened in the days of the fascist regime.

This is why Portugal's revised foreign policy has no support from the majority of the Portuguese people, from all the Portuguese democrats who hold dear the ideals of the April revolution.

IRAN'S QOTBZADEH CONDEMNS CANADIAN HELP TO U.S. DIPLOMATS

LD301746 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, January 30, TASS--Iran's Foreign Minister S. Qotbzadeh stressed in a statement for newsmen that Canada's action in illegally getting U.S. diplomats out of the country represents a gross violation of all the norms of international legality. This illustrates once again the real attitude of the Western countries to the norms of international law of whose violations they had accused Iran, the minister stressed. He said that at present the Canadian Government which had made out false passports and visas for U.S. "diplomats" will bear responsibility for a possible toughening of Iran's position and other changes in the attitude towards U.S. hostages. This is not the first time that the U.S. "diplomats", meaning officials of the CIA and other intelligence services, are using counterfeit passports. Among documents discovered by Iranian students in the taken-over U.S. Embassy several foreign passports have been found, including among others, one Belgian passport with counterfeit visas belonging to one of the U.S. hostages. Yet another story came to light recently about how a passport of an FRG citizen and a driving license issued in Hamburg were found on another "U.S. diplomat" D. O'Kifi. In addition, he had on him a detailed instruction explaining when and how he could, by himself, using phony stamps to extend visa for his sojourn in Iran in keeping with the rules established precisely for FRG citizens. In the U.S. Embassy, students had also discovered false passports which could be used for fleeing abroad by political and military figures who had committed crimes against the Iranian people and agents of the former shah secret police SAVAK.

IRANIAN OFFICIAL REPORTS CLOSING OF U.S. BANKS, END TO 'ABUSES'

LD301408 Moscow TASS in English 1342 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, January 30, TASS--Director of the Central Bank of Iran Nobari said that all the affiliates and missions of U.S. banks in Iran are closed and all their banking operations are prohibited. According to Nobari, the measure has to do with the decision of Iranian finance bodies to put an end to the uncontrolled currency operations of these banks and their abuses in expatriating currency from Iran.

PRAVDA CITES IRAN'S BANI-SADR LE MATIN INTERVIEW, MO'INFAR

LD301301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[TASS reports: "Concerning Iranian Events"]

[Text] Tehran, 27 January--The counting of votes in yesterday's presidential elections is continuing in Iran. According to preliminary figures, Bani-Sadr, Iran's minister of economic affairs and finance, has received most votes--7 million of the 8 million already counted. In an interview with Paris' LE MATIN Bani-Sadr declared that many problems exist in relations between Iran and the United States. Nevertheless, he said, the issue of the American hostages is a secondary matter. According to a report by PARS Agency, Mo'infar Iran's oil minister, has stated that explosions have taken place on two oil pipelines in the southern Iranian Province of Khuzestan, but has not specified what caused them. A fire started on one pipeline as a result of the explosion, but it was rapidly put out.

San Francisco, 27 January--A mass demonstration protesting the dangerous policy of the White House, which is threatening Iran with military force, has been held at the University of California. "By implementing a policy of military blackmail of Iran, the administration is trying to drag the American people into new adventures that by no means accord their interests," says the statement distributed during the demonstration by a group of U.S. students and other social organizations. "We refuse to shed blood to safeguard the oil monopolies' interests."

OVCHINNIKOV REVIEWS WESTERN INFLUENCE IN IRAN, REVOLUTION

LD291525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 80 p 6 LD

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov article: "Sarcasm of History"]

[Text] History is reputed to be impartial, but as you leaf through illustrated magazines from just 2 years ago, you get the feeling it can also be sarcastic. Here, for instance, is a report on President Carter's visit to Tehran on the eve of 1978. Surely his new-year toast rounds like mockery by history:

"Thanks to the shah's great leadership, Iran is an island of stability in one of the most troubled areas of the world. This is to the credit of Your Majesty and the result of the respect, admiration and love in which you are held by your people...."

Just a few days later, on 9 January 1978, popular disturbances flared up in the ancient city of Qom. They were the prolog to the antimonarchical, anti-imperialist people's revolution that steadily gathered strength through the following year and eventually swept away the "Peacock Throne." On 16 January 1979 the shah had to flee from his subjects' "respect, admiration and love."

In extolling the shah's Iran as an "island of stability" the guest from the White House was passing off his desires as reality, but it is worth recalling his words because the underlying reasons for Washington's present actions cannot be understood without a grasp of the essence of those "desires." As the military strike force builds up off Iran's borders under the pretext of concern for the hostages and floods of slander gush forth regarding the Soviet assistance to Afghanistan, the main motive is standing out more and more clearly in the babble of American propaganda. Stress is being placed on the claim that Soviet troops have been sent into Afghanistan with the aim of striking against the Persian Gulf oilfields from that country and condemning the capitalist world's economy to energy paralysis. The design is, by means of these fables, to get at the American consumer, scared by the lines at the gasoline pumps.

At the very moment when Washington is seeking to obtain participation by West Europe and Japan in an economic blockade against Iran and aircraft carriers are being moved into the Persian Gulf, the U.S. President tells Congress: "We have not quarreled with the Iranian revolution or the Iranian people. The threat to them comes not from American policy, but from the Russians' actions in the region...."

It was noted long ago that sinners tend to suspect those around them primarily of their own sins. Thus the people who are now trying to ascribe to the Soviet Union a colonialist policy and mentality that are alien to it are precisely those who cover others' wealth. It is they, the imperialists, who are drawn by the smell of oil. It is this that the U.S. ruling circles have long seen as the importance of Iran. Let us quote another incumbent of the White House. Here is what President Eisenhower wrote in his memoirs about the events of August 1953:

"Mossadeq surrendered. General Zahedi's armed forces arrested and imprisoned the leaders of the Tudeh Communist Party. It was all over."

But in reality the CIA conspiracy that returned the shah to the throne was not the end but the beginning of a drama that lasted all of 25 years. Mossadeq's legitimate government was overthrown because it has dared to challenge the plunderers of natural wealth (in the shape of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company) and had got through parliament a law nationalizing the oil industry. The imperialist predators refused to allow the biggest country in the Persian Gulf, from where the capitalist world gets almost half the oil it needs, to escape their domination.

In the 25 years of the shah's tyranny an international oil consortium dominated by American capital exported more than 2.5 billion tons of oil from Iran. The neo-colonialists were in a hurry. The country reached fourth place in the world in terms of extraction of "black gold" and was the second biggest oil exporter, after Saudi Arabia. As the capitalist world's dependence on Near East oil increased, Iran increasingly assumed not only economic but also military-political importance for U.S. imperialist circles.

The turn of the sixties and seventies was significant here. Britain's decision to curtail its military presence "east of Suez" and, in particular, in the Persian Gulf, coincided with the putting forward of the "Nixon doctrine." This was originally formulated for Indochina in the hope of "Vietnamizing" the hopelessly protracted adventure and making "Asians fight against Asians." However, the course of defending U.S. imperialist interests through the agency of other people found worldwide application at the time, and it turned out that the shah's Iran could be virtually the best performer of the role of regional policeman and a virtually ideal model for implementation of the "Nixon doctrine."

The distinctive feature of the Iranian revolution consists in the fact that while essentially democratic and anti-imperialistic it took on a religious coloring. History has seen similar examples and not only in the East: suffice it to recall the role of the Catholic community in the conflict in Northern Ireland. The resentment of the people's masses merged with the feelings of the Shi'ite clergy which saw the shah's pro-Western orientation as a threat to the traditional way of life and, consequently, to the influence of Islam. Long known as opponents of tyranny and self-interest the Shi'ites united diverse strata who opposed monarchical despotism and American dominance. They found themselves at the forefront of events also because the radical opposition in Iran had been drained by repression and at the time of the crisis no political organization capable of heading the masses was to be found. The year since the overthrow of the monarchy shows that the Iranian clergy is holding on to its positive role. Ayatollah Khomeyni's radical, anti-imperialist foreign policy course and his orientation toward the deprived, underprivileged strata in terms of carrying out domestic socioeconomic transformations has sharply enhanced his prestige in the country and beyond.

A year after the victory of the revolution the Iranian people are electing the republic's first president. Having cast off the yoke of the monarchy, Iranians want to square their shoulders and be masters in their own house, but these first steps are hampered by the fact that the country is threatened by the gendarme first of American imperialism. According to the magazine NEW YORK, the Carter government has set a course toward getting rid of [ustraneniye] Ayatollah Khomeyni. [paragraph continues]

As its first step, the magazine writes, the imposition of a naval blockade is slated. This would prevent Iran from selling its oil and, consequently, from buying grain. This would cause a food shortage and aggravate unemployment. Meanwhile, the CIA agents remaining in Iran would take advantage of the economic difficulties to kindle anti-government feelings and incite malcontents to hatch plots against Khomeyni by assuring them of American support. Finally, possible military actions, the magazine NEW YORK writes, include the bombing of Iranian oilfields, plants and ports by carrier-based aircraft.

Once again we have the familiar scenario, versions of which were performed when Mossadeq was overthrown, during the attempts to prop up a series of Saigon puppets and during the rapid succession of military juntas in the "banana republics."

"Last year we began to expand our capability to dispatch our armed forces to the Persian Gulf area and now we are studying the possibility of more active use of military facilities in this region. We have increased our naval presence in the Indian Ocean," Carter's January message to Congress says. New strong points are being feverishly sought on the Sinai Peninsula, in Oman, Somali and Kenya to replace those lost in Iran, and, consequently, the seeds of new crises and new failures are being sown.

"The Iranian crisis," the paper NEWSDAY writes, "is only the latest and most impressive evidence of the hostility the United States has aroused by supporting repressive dictatorships in the name of the slogan of anticommunism which we so revere."

A significant admission. To this I would like to add just one thing. History not only sneers sarcastically at those who forget its lessons. It can also wreak cruel vengeance on those who ignore its laws, its mainstream.

At the end of 1971, when the British left their last strongpoints "east of Suez," the Iranian Armed Forces occupied three islands at the entrance to the Straits of Hormuz, despite neighbors' arguments about their ownership. Fortifications were constructed on the islands; radar and antisubmarine apparatus was installed. Taking control of the sea route along which, in particular, two-thirds of the oil supplies for West Europe and nine-tenths of those for Japan traveled, the shah became the guardian of the Persian Gulf.

Soon after this, in 1972, Nixon lifted all restrictions on sales of American combat hardware to Iran. The shah received the right to acquire any quantity of any weapon from the United States. And in the following 5 years there purchases totaled the astronomical sum of $20 billion (and about twice that was spent in total). Iran became the biggest purchaser of weapons from the leading suppliers in the world capitalist market--the United States and Britain. It absorbed up to 40 percent of total American exports of combat hardware and was equipped with more British chieftain tanks than the British Army.

In the neocolonialists' view, they could not have wished for better. It was a rare example of the direct pumping of petrodollars into the safes of weapons manufacturers; an extremely successful form of fusion between the local feudal comprador clique and the military-industrial complex across the ocean. [paragraph continues]

The triple alliance of oil concerns, financial magnates and traders in death made fortunes from the unique combination of three roles by the shah's Iran, which simultaneously served as a supplier of "black gold," a market for weapons and policeman of the Persian Gulf.

The shah's regime was the zealous protector of imperialism's economic and political interests in the Near and Middle East. It showed that it was prepared for punitive functions by dispatching forces to put down the liberation struggle in Oman. Iran was the only country in the area not to join in the 1973 Oil Embargo against the United States. Thanks to Tehran's benevolence the South African racists were nine-tenths supplied with oil, more than one-half of Israel's needs were met by the same source. The shah was Washington's active accomplice in the preparation of the separate deal between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

So Iran's triple role was like a perpetual mobile reproducing energy for itself: the greater the oil exports the bigger the weapons purchases and, consequently, the more secure the guarantee of a repetition of both. However, in what would appear to be an "ideal scheme" one thing was missing--which was fatal for Iran--the most significant element: the Iranian people with their needs and aspirations. The shah boasted that a "White Revolution" bestowed from on high would create a society of social justice and that revenue from oil exports (which had reached $20 million per annum) would enable Iran to become the "Japan of the Middle East." But in fact, the more brazenly the "seven sisters" plundered the country's natural resources the tighter its fetters of economic and political dependence became. Neither the shah's reforms nor the flood of petrodollars could save the Iranian people from want. The elite grew fat: 80 percent of personal wealth was concentrated in the hands of one percent of the population. Reforms paving the way for capitalist relations hit the rural poor and small craftsmen and traders. Poverty drove millions of people to the cities, and a country which had provided all its own food for centuries was more than 50 percent dependent on food imports. Although the plundering of natural resources was in full swing, the treasury could not make ends meet: Expenditure exceeded income by $5 billion and more. By the mid-seventies Iran's military budget had reached $10 billion per annum and the upkeep of the army and purchases of military equipment abroad consumed one-half of oil export revenues.

The arguments still go on about the nature of the Iranian revolution. Some people see it as having originated in religious fanaticism and regard it as a rebellion by zealots of the old ways against the attempts to "modernize" Iran. These explanations are naive. The explosion which hit the country like an erupting volcano had objective social causes. Its revolutionary energy had been building up for years as the product of the exacerbation of class antagonisms--contradictions brought about by the feverish monopoly boom and the feudal-monarchic system.

SYRIAN ENVOY IN MOSCOW CALLS USSR 'LOYAL FRIEND' OF ARABS

LD302210 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS--Syria's Ambassador in the Soviet Union Jabr al-Kafri, speaking today at the opening of the exhibition "The Life of Moslems and Monuments of Moslem Culture in the USSR" stressed that the Soviet Union is a loyal friend of Arab peoples. "Countries of the socialist community, all progressive forces of the world support our struggle for the liberation of occupied Arab lands, for the ensurance of the right of the Palestinian people to sovereignty, to the creation of its independent state."

"Arabs and Moslems, he said, know well who is their friend and who is their enemy. The attempts of U.S. imperialism to mislead Arabs and Moslems, to split their unity, to sow animosity for the Soviet Union suffer a fiasco. It will not succeed in this deception."

Syria always participated actively in Arab and Moslem undertakings, Jabr al-Kafri said. But this time it does not take part in the Islamabad conference since it believes that there must be no interference in whatever form in the internal affairs of Afghanistan so as not to violate sovereignty of the Afghan people.

The opening of the borders, the establishment of the embassies and the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Israel were described by the Syrian ambassador as As-Sadat's new betrayal.

The hue and cry raised by international imperialism, by Israel, the As-Sadat regime, the reactionary forces in the Arab and Moslem world concerning the latest events in Iran and concerning the Soviet military support for Afghanistan constitute nothing else but part of the plans of U.S. imperialism aimed at perpetuating tension in the region and all over the world, said the Syrian ambassador in the Soviet Union. "We respect Afghanistan's resolve to protect its motherland, security and neutrality."

In the ambassador's opinion, the aim of this hue and cry is to arrest the progress of detente, to bring the world back to the times of the cold war, to undermine unity and principles of the nonaligned movement.

U.S. imperialism which talks about protecting Islam is actually weaving a plot against the revolution in Iran, is taking steps for using the economic sanctions and military blockade against Iran, is supplying the latest U.S. weapons to the Zionist aggressor to perpetuate its occupation of Arab and Palestinian lands, to make Jerusalem a Jewish city.

The Arab nation in its majority understands correctly the essence of the plans of the United States, Israel and the As-Sadat regime. It is determined to continue the struggle, Jabr al-Kafri said.

The meetings between Leonid Brezhnev and Hafiz al-Asad, as well as Andrey Gromyko's visit to Damascus were described by the ambassador as promoting the development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT THANKS SOVIET GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE FOR 'ASSISTANCE'

LD302142 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS--The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasir 'Arafat has sent a telegramme to Soviet public organisations in which he expresses profound gratitude for their congratulations sent on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

The telegramme notes the firm principled position of solidarity of Soviet public organizations with the just struggle conducted by all the Arab peoples, the Arab people of Palestine against intrigues by imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East, for peace, freedom and independence.

Yasir 'Arafat expressed gratitude to the Soviet Government and people for their constant assistance to the Palestinian people's struggle for the implementation of its inalienable national rights, including the right to self-determination and the creation of its own independent state.

ARABS WARNED AGAINST U.S.-PRC IMPERIALISTIC COLLUSION

LD282315 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 28 Jan 80 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "An Aggressive Alliance Against Arab and Islamic Peoples"]

[Excerpts] Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua recently paid a visit to Pakistan. In Islamabad, he held talks with Pakistani leaders on increasing the delivery of weapons to the Pakistani Army as well as to the mercenary armed gangs who are carrying out hostile activities against Afghanistan.

Before Huang Hua's visit to Pakistan, talks took place between U.S. Defense Secretary Brown and the Chinese leaders in Beijing. During these talks they reached an agreement on expanding U.S. and Chinese participation, and not only in the aggressive steps against Afghanistan. At a press conference, Brown himself stated that the United States found Beijing to be a suitable partner for carrying out its strategic military plans in both the Near and Middle East. Consequently, Washington and Beijing have in fact concluded an unofficial military and political treaty. It is very obvious whom this alliance is directed against. This is an undisputed fact.

The United States showed its hostility to the revolution in Afghanistan from the beginning, just as Beijing did. But would Washington and Beijing enter into an alliance for no other reason than to oppose the Afghan revolution? Everyone knows that the United States placed its bet on the shah's regime and showed its hostility to the Iranian revolution from the start. At the same time, the Chinese prime minister himself, Hua Guofeng, stressed to the shah's regime, during his visit to Tehran, that China firmly supported [words indistinct]. After a lapse, China was compelled to shed crocodile tears and to apologize, but it did not cease its subversive activities against the Iranian revolution. Indeed, it intensified such activities, just as Washington did. The question here concerns joint actions by the American and Chinese intelligence services against the present regime in Iran.

What reveals China's definite hostility toward the new Iran is the fact that Beijing lauds the increase of the U.S. naval presence in the gulf, bearing in mind that this force is prepared to launch an armed aggression on Iran.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let us glance at the map of the Islamic states. In this region, where the popular masses are waging a struggle against imperialism--whether it be in Iran, Oman or other areas--Beijing stands side-by-side with imperialism against this struggle. In light of this, one must accept the opinion of Nadim 'Abd As-Samad, a progressive Lebanese figure, who recently wrote that the Chinese leadership undertook, at its own free will, to execute a dangerous and dirty act.

And as a result of this act imperialism gained a new force--a force that will carry out what imperialism itself cannot carry out. In fact, the ruling military bureaucratic clique in Beijing, which is affected by hegemonism, leadership and chauvinism--the chauvinism of a great power--is fully suitable for carrying out the role of the stifler of feedom and independence.

While entering its criminal military concord with American imperialism, Beijing is trying to frighten the Islamic peoples with the myth of Soviet threat and to drive them to abandon their inalienable rights to freedom, independence and social progress. But this betting is doomed to failure. The Islamic peoples have not stopped waging their struggle for liberty, and in this struggle they have a loyal and sincere friend in the Soviet Union and in the other socialist countries, and in all progressive mankind.

UK PREPARING FOR PERMANENT MILITARY PRESENCE IN PERSIAN GULF

LD251436 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 25 Jan 80 LD

[Text] London, January 25, TASS--In spite of official refutations, the Conservative Government has started preparations for ensuring permanent British military presence in the Persian Gulf Zone. This is seen, in particular, from the reports leaking into the press that in the course of several days British General M. Tomlinson has been on a private tour of countries of this region. He visited Kuwait and Bahrain, is now staying in Dubai principality and will then go to Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Defence department officials are trying to present the tour of the general as a "fact-finding" one, but the aims of this tour are different. As the newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH points out in this connection, M. Tomlinson is in charge at the defence department of organising the supply of friendly governments with British military personnel.

According to press reports, whigh ranking British officers have long been working as "instructors" among the armed forces of a number of Persian Gulf states, including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Oman. Apart from it British mercenaries are staying there on special contracts.

M. Tomlinson's mission at present boils down to expanding the British military presence under the pretext of "stepping up the training" of armed forces of the states in the region.

Highly characteristic in this connection is the fact that the tour of the general was preceded by the recent visits to the Persian Gulf countries by Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs D. Hurd. The latter said then that Britain will examine with understanding requests of the friendly governments for further aid. And now General M. Tomlinson is engaged in specifying the details of this aid.

MUSLIM EXHIBITION OPENS IN MOSCOW, EXTOLS USSR ISLAM POLICY

LD302139 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 30, TASS--A broad panorama of the life of the Soviet Moslems is shown at an exhibition "Life of Moslems and Monuments of Islamic Culture in the USSR" that opened today in Moscow. The exhibition was organized by the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and is held in connection with the approach of the 15th century of the Hegira observed by all Moslems.

The opening of the exhibition that was mounted in the halls of the beautiful mansion of the Union of Friendship Societies was attended, together with Muscovites, by heads and members of staff of a number of diplomatic representations accredited in Moscow. Leaders of Moslem boards from different areas of the country and other representatives of Moslem clergy have arrived. Present was Chairman of the Council for the Affairs of Religions at the USSR Supreme Soviet Vladimir Kuroyedov.

Documentary materials displayed at the exhibition show that Moslems in the Soviet Union enjoy all constitutional rights and, following requirements of Islam, are active participants in the economic, public and cultural life, support the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet state.

On behalf of all religious leaders and believers, the organisers of the exhibition were thanked by Chairman of the Moslem Board of Central Asia and Kazakhstan Mufti Ziyautdin ibn Ishan Babakhanov. He was given the honor of cutting the white ribbon at the entrance to the exhibition.

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Syrian Arab Republic in the USSR Jabr al-Kafri delivered a speech at the opening of the exhibition. He said that "even a cursory glance at the social, economic, scientific and cultural situation of Moslems in the USSR before and after the revolution enables one to get the impression about a huge leap that was made by peoples of the USSR in the development in all spheres of life. Such an example was without precedent for Moslem peoples in neighbouring countries that continue languishing under the yoke of imperialists, colonialists and their flunkeys who are doing everything to arrest at a medieval level the development of the peoples they enslaved and to keep them in poverty and ignorance". "Objective reality shows that Soviet Moslems, in accordance with the USSR Constitution, just as all members of the Soviet society, have complete freedom of conscience, enjoy other freedoms, rights and complete respect for their religious beliefs".

Jabr al-Kafri condemned the policy of U.S. imperialism in the Near and Middle East, which flouts the rights of Moslems, supports Israel that is desecrating Islamic holy places, is striving to perpetuate its colonial rule. The ambassador stressed that friends of Arab peoples are the Soviet Union, countries of the socialist community and all forces in the world striving for good, progress and justice. We are confident that the attempts of U.S. imperialism to mislead Arabs and Moslems, to split their unity, to sow hostility for the Soviet Union will suffer a fiasco. It will not succeed with this deception."

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPOINTS NEW DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

LD291840 Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 29 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 29, TASS--The USSR Council of Ministers has appointed Viktor Stukalin to the post of deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

VOSS REPORTS FOODSTUFF, LIVESTOCK PROBLEMS AT LATVIAN CP PLENUM

LD301001 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 12 Dec 79 pp 1-2 LD

[LATINFORM "abridged" account of report delivered by A.E. Voss, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Latvian CP Central Committee, at 11 December Latvian CP Central Committee Plenum]

[Text] Comrades!

As you know, a CPSU Central Committee plenum was convened 27 November. It heard and discussed reports on the draft USSR state plan for economic and social development and the country's draft state budget for 1980. A long speech was delivered at the plenum by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech is a programmatic political document of tremendous mobilizing force. It shows in a thorough and well-argued way the results of the Soviet people's selfless labor since the 25th party congress, accurately and clearly indicates our shortcoming and omissions, reveals profoundly and comprehensively ways of further improving production efficiency and work quality and gives principled recommendations on the elaboration of the 11th 5-Year Plan. Thus a concrete action program of practical activity is defined for party committees and all party organizations and communists for the final period of the 10th 5-Year Plan and for subsequent years.

I would like to note with satisfaction that all the speakers at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, and also at the USSR Supreme Soviet session, spoke of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev with great and cordial warmth and gratitude. Expressing the general opinion, the plenum participants noted with pride that under Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's leadership the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo insure the elaboration and successful implementation of the party's domestic and foreign policy from principled Marxist-Leninist positions and with tremendous energy and purposefulness. With his selfless labor for the sake of the triumph of communism and his tireless concern for the people's good and happiness and for peace throughout the world, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has rightly won the warm love and sincere respect of all Soviet people and all progressive mankind.

In a unanimously adopted resolution the plenum fully and wholly approved provisions and conclusions set out in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech and advised that they become the foundation of the activity of all party, state and economic organs and trade union and Komsomol organizations in fulfilling the plan for 1980 and implementing the instructions of the 25th CPSU Congress on questions of the party's economic policy.

The plenum substantially approved the draft state plan and the draft budget for the country for the last year of the 5-year plan and instructed the USSR Council of Ministers to submit them for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet. The documents were then ratified unanimously by the USSR Supreme Soviet session and thereby acquired the force of law.

All the CPSU Central Committee plenum's work took place in a Leninist ideological and businesslike spirit and in an atmosphere of unanimity and cohesion. The plenum participants' speeches were permeated with unshakable confidence in the triumph of our cause and were of a self-critical, constructive nature.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum and the documents and materials of the USSR Supreme Soviet session have received unanimous support and the warmest approval in our republic, as throughout the country. They arm our party, soviet and economic cadres and all working people with a correct understanding of the tasks facing the country and provide an accurate orientation for our activity in further developing the national economy.

Going on to describe in detail the main results of the country's national economic development and the further upsurge in the Soviet people's material and cultural level which have been achieved in the first 4 years of the current 5-year plan, A.S. Voss stressed that since the start of the 5-year plan really tremendous work has been carried out in implementing the party's economic and social policy as elaborated by the 25th CPSU Congress.

Today we can note with satisfaction that Soviet Latvia's labor collectives have also made a substantial contribution to the successes of the country's national economy. As is known, the generalizing indicator of the socialist economy's development is the increase in national income. In the first 4 years of the 5-year plan this will increase by R4.3 billion in our republic. The volume of output will increase by R6.1 billion in industry and nearly R200 million in agriculture. An extensive capital construction program is being implemented everywhere. In the first 4 years of the 5-year plan its volume will total R4.8 billion. Considerable resources are being invested in expanding fixed productive capital in industry and agriculture. As a result the capital-labor ratio in these main sectors will increase 26 and 38 percent respectively in comparison with the corresponding period in the last 5-year plan. In the current 5-year plan dozens of industrial enterprises and production facilities have been constructed and modernized in the republic. Among them are the Ventspils quayside plant, the Bolderayskiy comprehensive timber-processing combine, the Riga furniture combine, the Radiotekhnika and Rigas Apgeres production associations, the Riga TETs-2, the Kegums GES and many more.

It is important to note that during this 5-year plan more than 72 percent of capital investment is being directed toward the modernization and technical reequipping of enterprises. A whole series of measures have been adopted to increase the technical standard of production, introduce new machinery and reduce the number of workers engaged in manual and heavy physical labor.

Much has been done to improve product quality. The wide utilization at industrial enterprises of comprehensive quality-control systems, the achievements of modern science and technology and leading experience has made it possible to increase the proportion of top-quality products in the total volume of output nearly threefold since the start of the 5-year plan. I would particularly like to stress that more than 70 percent of articles with the state seal of quality are consumer goods. The 5-year plan targets for expanding their output are being fulfilled successfully in the main.

In accordance with the instructions of the 25th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum and other CPSU Central Committee plenums, the consistent implementation of the course of further developing agriculture and strengthening its material and technical base has continued throughout the first 4 years of the 5-year plan period in the republic. During this period our rural areas have been supplied with 16,500 tractors, 3,800 grain-harvesting combines, 9,400 trucks and 5.7 million tons of mineral fertilizers. All this, in conjunction with the people's selfless labor, has made it possible to insure an average annual increase in gross output from agriculture of 8.5 percent in comparison with the Ninth 5-Year Plan. And it must not be forgotten that the increase in productivity was achieved in extremely unfavorable weather conditions. Usually after a natural disaster such as occurred in the republic in 1978 it takes several years to restore livestock production.

But thanks to the great assistance given to us in good time by the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, and the country's fraternal republics, particularly the RSFSR, we were able to successfully overcome the setback. This year the number of cattle, pigs and poultry in the republic has increased, agricultural field work was completed earlier than before, the plan for sowing winter crops has been overfulfilled and the fall plowing was completed in good time. In general a reliable base has been created for successful work in future.

As in the country as a whole, the speaker went on to say, in our republic major measures have been implemented in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan to resolve important social questions and improve the people's living standard. This is reflected in concentrated form above all in the dynamic increase in real per capita income and the increase in workers' and employees' wages and also in kolkhoz members' incomes. With every year of the 5-year plan the sale of consumer goods and the volume of consumer services is increasing and working and living conditions for the republic's working people are constantly improving. Housing and social and cultural construction is taking place on a large scale.

Summing up the results of what has been done, we have every reason to say that in the years which have elapsed in the 5-year plan our republic has developed within the country's unified national economic complex in accordance with the course outlined by the 25th party congress, subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's instructions and recommendations. We see in the results of the first 4 years of the 5-year plan a reliable basis for the successful resolution of the major, crucial tasks which were set at the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum.

In speaking of the republic's achievements today, we must note that they are all the result of the implementation of the party's wise Leninist policy and its tireless concern for the prosperity of all the peoples of our multinational socialist motherland. We are boundlessly grateful to the CPSU Central Committee, its Politburo, the Soviet Government and all our country's fraternal peoples and above all the Great Russian people, for the tremendous, invaluable assistance of which our republic is constantly aware.

Today we have to discuss the tasks arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum and the speech at the plenum by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and also the reports on the Latvian SSR draft state plan for economic and social development and the republic's draft state budget for 1980. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, next year is not only the final year of the current 5-year plan, but also the basis on which the next 5-year plan is built. It is a year of active preparations for the 26th party congress. It is from this viewpoint that we must approach the assessment of the work we have done and the tasks for 1980.

I think the republic's draft plan for the coming year accords with these requirements in the main. Soviet Latvia is approaching the new 5-year plan with considerably increased economic, scientific and technical potential. Our main task now is to insure, as the CPSU Central Committee plenums demand, that the maximum use is made of all existing potentials and reserves to insure the unconditional fulfillment and overfulfillment of plan targets for 1980.

The draft state plan for the last year of the 5-year plan provides for higher rates of development in the most important sectors of the national economy than have been achieved so far. The growth in industrial output is to be 4.6 percent as against an expected 3.5 percent in 1976-1979, and the growth in gross output for agriculture is to be 8.5 percent. [paragraph continues]

Taking into account the planned development of the main sectors, it is planned to increase the national income 4.5 percent as against the average annual growth of 3.6 percent over the period which has elapsed in the 5-year plan. In 1980 there will be increasing preferential development rates in the power industry--6 percent; the chemicals and petrochemicals industry--8 percent; and machine building and metalworking--6.4 percent.

At the same time it should be noted that despite outstripping previous years to some extent, in a number of basic items the draft plan for 1980 does not insure the fulfillment of 5-year plan targets.

The greatest laggardness in fulfilling the 5-year plan is expected in the fish industry, the construction materials industry and the timber, pulp paper, wood-processing, food, meat and dairy industries. Nearly one-half of enterprises in the chemicals industry, machine building and metalworking are not reaching the target production level. A negative influence is also exerted on the rate of our economic development in the 10th 5-Year Plan by the nonfulfillment of this year's plan targets by a number of ministries, departments, production associations and enterprises. It is expected that in 1979 the volume of industrial output will increase 1.5-2 percent in comparison with 1978, instead of the planned 3.5 percent.

Of course, many factors can be found to explain the situation which has arisen. They include objective factors. But as for the main reason for the persistence of bottlenecks and shortcomings in our economy, as was quite rightly noted in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech, this is the fact that in the sphere of further improving production efficiency and work quality we have not succeeded in making the progress envisaged by the plan and that by no means all ministries and departments have been able to overcome the force of inertia and resolutely complete the turn toward quality, improving labor productivity and achieving high end results in all work.

There is every reason to apply these words to a whole series of our ministries, and above all the Ministries of Forestry and the Timber Industry and the Construction Materials Industry. Their unsatisfactory work has been spoken of more than once before now. But as yet no change for the better is taking place, although the two ministries have considerable opportunities for significantly improving their activity. Here the point is that their leaders give little thought to improving the economic machinery and to the reasonable utilization of internal reserves to improve production efficiency and work quality. This makes it necessary to again draw the attention of Comrade Minister L.P. Vitol and Comrade Minister N.I. Dorofeyev to the need to draw the necessary conclusions from the criticism.

Every participant in the present plenum is well aware that poor work on the part of individual sectors leads to disproportions, shortages and inadequate reserves and reduces the final national economic results. That is why our attention must be focused on eliminating bottlenecks in economic development.

One such bottleneck is the work of transport, above all railroad transport. This question, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, has become particularly acute. A number of measures have recently been implemented in the republic to improve the utilization of existing transport facilities and increase the carrying and pass-through capacity of the railroads. But the measures which have been adopted have not yielded the required results, and the state of affairs with railroad transportation of freight for the national economy remains extremely strained in the republic. Particularly great laggardness has been permitted with the transportation of construction materials and also of grain and other cargoes from seaports. [paragraph continues]

Naturally a considerable share of the responsibility for all this rests with Comrade L.T. Makarenko, chief of the Baltic Railroad, and the leader of the Riga, Daugavpils and Yelgava sections of the railroad (Comrades E.P. Lazdyn, O.A. Moshenko and Ya.Ya. Rachko). Today we must demand that they adopt the most energetic, effective measures.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech stressed, it is necessary to impose order and strengthen discipline without delay in all sectors of railroad transport. It is necessary to improve the material and technical base of railroad transport more rapidly, to extend and improve freightcar repair work and to develop station management. Greater efforts must be directed toward resolving questions of the coordination of different types of transport, improving the organization and planning of the transport process and developing other types of transport. In this connection the republic's Gosplan and the Baltic Railroad Administration, in conjunction with other ministries and departments, enterprises and organizations under union jurisdiction, must carry out more skillful and responsible work in rationalizing freight transportation and insuring the maximum transfer of freight from railroad transport to motor and river transport.

The task of sharply increasing the efficiency of utilization of existing transport facilities remains urgent. The acute nature of this problem is indicated by the fact that in 11 months more than 10,000 freightcar loads were lost because of freightcars standing idle longer than scheduled in the sidings of enterprises and organizations. Idle time is particularly great during loading and unloading at enterprises of the Ministries of Procurement and of Foresty and Wood Processing, the State Trust for the Procurement and Processing of Secondary Ferrous Metals and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture and at the Riga and Ventspils trade ports. At the same time practice shows that, with correct organization, good results can be obtained. Suffice it to recall the relatively good organization of work in receiving and dispatching freight on the days preceding the public holiday and on the days off in November, although the level of loading and unloading of freightcars was significantly higher than usual at that time. Hence the need to resolutely increase the responsibility of leaders of ministries and departments and enterprises and organizations in industry, construction and trade for the timely loading and unloading of freightcars, containers and trucks.

We must not become reconciled to the fact that a number of ministries and departments, including the Ministries of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, Construction Materials Industry and Local, Food and Wood-Processing Industries, and also certain enterprises under union jurisdiction, are not fulfilling on schedule the measures laid down for the 5-year plan in developing industrial railroad transport. As is known, the CPSU Central Committee plenum set the task of elaborating a comprehensive program for the development of transport in the country, a program intended to embrace questions of the development and coordination of all types of transportation. Here special attention is devoted to radically improving the organization of transportation and to more rational planning. The situation demands that within the framework of the 11th 5-Year Plan such a comprehensive program be elaborated in our republic too. In a word, party and soviet organs and all economic cadres must persistently, on a day-to-day basis and with a sense of high responsibiity, occupy themselves with these and other questions aimed at improving the efficiency of the work of transport. Their resolution brooks no delay.

Speaking of fuel and power industry problems at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev put forward as a most important state task all-round savings and thrift in the expenditure of fuel and energy resources. We have recently held a detailed discussion on this theme, the speaker went on to note, at the republic party and economic aktiv meeting. [paragraph continues]

There are also appropriate Latvian CP Central Committee and Latvian SSR Council of Ministers resolutions on this question. We now have one remaining duty--to strictly and absolutely fulfill the measures elaborated, particularly those aimed at creating fuel stocks for the winter period.

Last winter caused us considerable troubles. Unfortunately not all leaders have learned its lessons. In the current quarter the Main Administration for the Marketing and Supply of Petroleum and Fuel (chief: Comrade V.P. Dyatchin) is considerably behind in realizing its funds for furnace oil and diesel and household boiler fuel. As before, special concern is caused by the slow rate of procurement and transportation of firewood. At a number of enterprises, in construction organizations and on kolkhozes and sovkhozes the necessary conditions have not been created for the strictest savings of fuel and electricity. This applies above all to the Riga diesel construction plant and the Daugavpils locomotive repair plant, the Yelgava meat combine, the Ogre knitwear combine and certain other enterprises.

The task for party gorkoms and raykoms and party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations is to strive to insure the unconditional fulfillment of plan targets for saving fuel and to insure further improvements in the forms and methods of organizational and political work to step up the policy of thrift and the careful and rational expenditure of fuel and energy at all stages of their production and consumption. The efforts of all labor collectives and literally every working person and every person living in the republic must be aimed at saving fuel and energy.

A radical improvement in metal utilization is an equally important state task. This was mentioned extremely specifically and clearly at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. Analysis shows that at one in three of the republic's leading machine-building enterprises a substantial overexpenditure of rolled ferrous metals is permitted as compared with the norms laid down. As before, a large quantity of metal is wasted because of imperfect technology. Many types of machine-building products are excessively metal intensive. Major losses of metal also occur in construction organizations.

The republic's Gosplan, Gossnab and ministries and departments must insure, in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee plenum's instructions, a decisive turn toward quality and savings of metal, since we have no alternative.

Problems of capital construction demand special attention, efforts and concern. Every year more than one-fifth of the national income is directed toward this, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed at the plenum. Our economic indicators, the rate of scientific and technical progress and production efficiency all depend on how these resources are utilized. Today, as before, we must say frankly that the organization of construction output in the republic cannot be considered satisfactory. Construction schedules are constantly dragged out. The so-called "uncompleted construction" is growing. Now and again resources are scattered and directed to projects which are by no means of priority importance.

State plans are systematically not being fulfilled. It is already clear that for the republic's Ministry of Construction as a whole the plan for the current year will not be fulfilled. In a number of cases because of poor quality construction work and the large number of defects residential blocks are commissioned but are not inhabited for a long time. Responsibility for all this rests above all with Comrade I.N. Ulmanis, minister of construction, and the leaders of construction trusts and administrations. It should be noted that in most construction organizations and also in the ministry's own apparatus a spirit of impunity for shortcomings and omissions in work has taken root and it has become the practice for a number of leaders to make promises and fail to keep their word, to take decisions and not insure their fulfillment. This faulty style of leadership must be changed without delay.

One major factor in the chronic laggardness of our construction sector is the impermissibly indifferent attitude toward questions of improving the technical standard of construction and introducing leading experience and modern methods of management and organization of construction. A clear example here is provided by the so-called assimilation of the new, 119th series of apartment buildings. The decision to construct them was adopted 10 years ago. Today I would like to ask Comrade G.V. Ukhov, first deputy Gosplan chairman, Comrade Ya.F. Rubins, chairman of Gosstroy, and Comrade I.N. Ulmanis, minister of construction, when they will seriously set about fulfilling the decisions adopted.

There are many serious shortcomings and a great deal of formalism in the introduction of such well-tried labor methods as the team contract, the work experience of the Sverdlovskaya and Orlovskaya oblast construction workers and competition according to the principle of the workers' relay. Economic leaders, party committees and primary party organizations must create all the conditions for the mass introduction of the team contract and for the wide dissemination of the experience of our production front-runners and innovators, and above all the teams of Comrades V. Fesenko, I. Kuprevich, M. Karabeshko and V. Veykshan, which are striving for high labor productivity.

Capital construction is closely associated with and depends to a great extent on the activity of a whole series of ministries and departments, production associations and enterprises. An adverse effect is produced on its progress by the failure on the part of the republic's Gossnab, the Ministry of Wood-Processing Industry and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture to supply construction organizations with the necessary material and technical resources in good time. Certain ministries and client enterprises permit laggardness in supplying construction sites with full sets of equipment, fail to concern themselves with questions of the timely training of operator cadres and violate schedules for issuing design documents.

Nor have miscalculations in planning capital construction been eliminated yet. Because of the unequal distribution of volumes of work over the republic's territory, that is, distribution without taking into account the established capacities of construction organizations and the existence of material and technical resources, a whole series of trusts, construction administrations and mobile mechanized columns are knowingly being set unrealistic growth rates. These and other examples show that our Gosplan is often practically powerless in the face of pressure from narrow department and local attitudes and does not oppose them as necessary or display the necessary firmness. As was stressed in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech, this leads to the dispersal of resources, an increase in uncompleted construction and too slow a reduction in the number of projects under construction at the same time. The necessary order must be imposed here and we must strive to insure that plans become a real organizing force and a firm basis for the labor of all construction collectives without exception.

Leaders of ministries and departments and party and soviet organs must examine very thoroughly the state of affairs at every construction site and adopt effective measures to eliminate the laggardness which has been permitted and insure the unconditional commissioning of all production capacities and housing and civil construction projects on schedule.

In all sectors of the construction conveyor we must create an atmosphere of high exactingness, organization and a creative attitude toward the task and insure on this basis a radical improvement in the state of affairs in capital construction.

Another key problem given special prominence by the plenum is the further development of agriculture, A.E. Voss went on. The aim of the party's agrarian policy is to make that sector highly efficient and highly productive and substantially improve the reliability of supplies of food products to the people and agricultural raw material to industry.

In his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed that insuring uninterrupted supplies and the production of adequate quantities of a wide range of high-quality food products is one of the most important tasks arising from the party's course of improving the working people's well-being.

Concrete, practical tasks for party organizations and soviet and economic organs in the republic in implementing this course in the light of the decisions of the 25th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum were defined, as is known, at the 12th Latvian CP Central Committee Plenum, held last March. They were interpreted in concrete form for the current moment at the recent republic conference of livestock-raising workers. It is now important to focus all our attention on the speediest implementation of the measures outlined.

The main thing is to insure that on the basis of this extensive program of concrete actions the output of livestock products, particularly meat, is increased in every way. The shortcomings in supplying meat to the population have become protracted here.

In order to overcome the laggardness it is necessary to fight persistently for the implementation of the measures outlined by the 12th Latvian CP Central Committee Plenum in the accelerated development of pig raising as the sector of meat stockraising which yields the fastest results. Party, soviet and economic organs in the republic have already done considerable work to increase the numbers of pigs. An additional 83,800 single-farrowing sows have been selected in a short space of time. In the first 11 months of this year 200,000 more piglets were obtained than in the same period last year. In the republic as a whole the number of pigs has increased 15 percent. An additional 270 pig units of the simplified type have been constructed.

Measures have been adopted to obtain the necessary quantity of young animals early next year and to insure a good basis for the production of pork.

However, energetic measures to complete the work commenced are being adopted far from everywhere. In a number of rayons the number of piglets obtained for meat production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes is not increasing, but on the contrary, falling. For instance, in Saldusskiy Rayon the number has fallen by 6,400, in Dobelskiy Rayon by 5,500, in Yelgavskiy Rayon by 4,900 and in Bauskiy Rayon by 4,000 head.

On Bauskiy Rayon farms, according to 1 December figures, the target for obtaining piglets had been only 71 percent fulfilled. In other words, there is a shortfall of more than 50,000 in the number of piglets obtained. On Viyesturi Kolkhoz and Vetsumniyeki and Berstele sovkhoves this target has been only 53-65 percent fulfilled.

It transpires that the Bauskiy Raykom did not draw the necessary conclusions from the criticism it was subjected to at the Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau last July. I would like to remind Comrade Ya. P. Bonat, first secretary of the raykom, that the Central Committee Bureau noted his assurances on rectifying the situation and that it will probably return to this question in the first quarter of next year. Examples of nonfulfillment of targets set for obtaining piglets and also instances of their being squandered could be cited for other rayons in the republic too. Raykoms, rayispolkoms, the Ministry of Agriculture and Comrade V.I. Sakar personally, the deputy minister responsible, must draw the appropriate conclusions from an analysis of this year's omissions and failures and fully insure that the planned quantity of piglets is obtained in the first 6 months of 1980. It is necessary to safeguard all animals and organize their intensive fattening in order to sharply increase pork production next year and fulfill plans for the sale of meat to the state.

Alongside the intensive development of pig raising, which we rightly regard as paramount in all our work today, we must also not lose sight of questions of increasing beef production, the speaker stressed. It must be said frankly that as yet these questions are being resolved only poorly. The cattle population is increasing extremely slowly. In the last 3 years their numbers per 100 hectares of agricultural land on kolkhozes and sovkhozes have increased by one--from 45 to 46 head. The number of cows is not increasing. It is now only 17 head per 100 hectares of agricultural land. This is clearly an inadequate density for our conditions, and in some places, such as Bas Balvskiy, Yekabpilsskiy, Kuldigskiy and Ludzenskiy rayons, it is even lower. The density of the cow population in some rayons--Dobelskiy, Bauskiy, Gulbenskiy, Ludzenskiy, Ogrskiy and Tukumskiy--has even fallen. This situation can in no way be regarded as normal. We must immediately and seriously set about improving it. It is extremely important to use all possible methods of increasing beef production wisely and thriftily, including the achievements of Soviet and world practice in rearing improved meat breeds of cattle. The Ministry of Agriculture and scientific research institutes must ultimately elaborate a clear position on this question and give the necessary recommendations as to the best ways of developing beef cattle raising.

In brief, it is incumbent on us to make creative use of all ways and means of increasing the livestock population, improving its productivity, rapidly increasing meat production and improving meat supplies to the population. To this end it is necessary to establish stricter party control over the fulfillment of the program of measures outlined by the 12th Latvian CP Central Committee Plenum and to substantially increase self-discipline among farm leaders and their responsibility for production growth rates and the fulfillment of targets for the procurement of livestock products. The Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau again recalls that all work in increasing meat resources in rayons and cities must be headed personally by party committee first secretaries, and in the republic as a whole by Comrade K.S. Anspok, minister of agriculture, personally.

Of course, the necessary growth in stockraising next year and in subsequent years cannot be insured without creating an adequate fodder base. That is why it is extremely necessary to show systematic and profound concern for the fulfillment of plans for improving soil fertility and the standard of cropgrowing, increasing the yield of grain and other crops and developing specialization and interfarm cooperation. Without dwelling in detail on questions of the fodder base, since we discussed this thoroughly at our Central Committee's 12th plenum, I would like to make one observation. In recent years many farm leaders and specialists have displayed a tendency toward the greatest possible feeding with fodder concentrates in all cases, and often out of state funds. In 1965, for instance, fodder concentrates made up 61 percent of the nutritional value of feed for pigs, in 1977 it was 86 percent, and last year, 1978, it was 86.6 percent. During that time the content of succulent fodder in the pigs' feed has fallen from 26 percent to 6 percent. This approach to feeding livestock can only be called faulty and is not in accordance with our capabilities.

Now that the crucial period for the wintering of livestock has arrived, the concerns of party organizations, soviet and agricultural organs and all rural workers must be focused on utilizing fodder thriftily and rationally to carry out the wintering successfully, increase the production and procurement of milk and meat every month and more effectively lead competition for the unconditional fulfillment of plans for the final stage of the 5-year plan. All our party organizational and mass political work among livestock workers must be decisively improved. We are instructed to do this by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee resolution published the other day on mounting all-union socialist competition to increase the production and procurement of livestock products in the 1979-1980 winter period.

It was noted at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that agricultural production must not be seen in isolation from the system of procurement, transportation, storage, processing and trade in food products. All this constitutes a single production complex, and it must be planned as a single whole. We must manage it as a single complex, insuring the uninterrupted and rapid passage of products from production to the stores. In the light of these requirements we must work more persistently on the creation of rayon agroindustrial associations--as unified production, economic and social agroindustrial complexes in the rayons. Here the production, processing and transportation of agricultural products must be concentrated within the associations. These questions require serious, thoughful resolution. First and foremost this concerns the production, procurement, processing and sale of vegetables.

The Ministry of Agriculture and other relevant ministries and departments in the republic have repeatedly been set the task at past Latvian CP Central Committee plenums of creating a vegetable-growing association for the guaranteed year-round supply of vegetables to the population in the cities of Riga and Yurmala, as well as other cities under republic jurisdiction. We must significantly increase the construction of warehouse accommodation for the storage of vegetable products, making use for this purpose of interfarm cooperation and the coordination of farm facilities and trade organizations. Moskovskaya Oblast experience convincingly confirms the effectiveness of this approach. It is also necessary to increase state and kolkhoz investment in the creation of capacities for processing vegetables and fruit which are unsuitable for transportation and long-term storage. This particularly concerns the republic's northeast rayons. Raykoms, the Ministry of Agriculture and Gosplan must take this into account in drafting the next 5-year plan.

You all know, comrades, that the state does not begrudge resources for developing agriculture. More than R4 billion has been invested in our republic alone over the last three 5-year plans. We must always make use of these vast resources thriftily, insuring the maximum return.

As is known, at the CPSU Central Committee plenum Comrade L.I. Brezhnev leveled critical remarks in this respect at the union Ministries of Food Industry and Meat and Dairy Industry. They also apply fully to our republic, A.E. Voss said. The ministry of Food Industry is still not fully satisfying the trade's requirements for the range of bread and bakery products. The production of the range of small bread products is particularly in default. There are many complaints about bread quality. I must also note that, despite a certain reduction in milk production compared with last year, we have considerable resources and with skilful organization could insure the full satisfaction of all requirements. It must be supposed that Comrade I.D. Kuznetsova, minister of food industry and Comrade S.E. Vannakh, minister of meat and dairy industry, will draw the correct conclusions from the criticism and immediately set about the practical solution of the questions raised.

We also have interruptions in the supply of certain industrial goods to the population. Having noted appreciable progress in the production of consumer goods, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, also criticized planning organs, ministries and departments for not pursuing persistently enough the accelerated development of the consumer goods industry. We have already said repeatedly that the study of the public's demand for essential goods does not meet modern requirements. A considerable number of popular [khodovyye] goods are now numbered among the goods in short supply. Unfortunately, the list of such articles is not being reduced but on the contrary is showing a steady tendency to increase, and often with respect to articles of which there were adequate supplies yesterday. [paragraph continues]

All this indicates that it is ultimately necessary to make tougher demands on those who are directly responsible for the state of affairs governing the production of consumer goods. I have in mind above all Comrade E. Ya. Yablonskiy, minister of light industry, and also leaders of union republic ministries and departments, production associations and enterprises.

A certain share of the blame for creating a shortage rests also with comrade V.D. Azan, minister of trade. It is the ministry's direct duty to improve the organization of trade much more efficiently, to maneuver resources more flexibly, to influence production more actively and to seek from industry supplies of precisely those goods which the consumer really needs.

Following Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's instructions, we must find specific culprits for each "shortage" caused by indifference, irresponsibility and sometimes downright stupid bungling, and punish them.

We have documents which clearly show that many goods in demand daily could be successfully produced locally. That is why, as well as increasing the responsibility of ministries and departments and planning and trade organs, it is necessary to insure that the republic's local industry and consumer organizations are concerned more concretely and with greater initiative in the production of consumer goods. Gosplan, ministries and departments and party, soviet and economic organs locally must do everything necessary to speed up the production of consumer goods, improve their quality and improve supplies to the population.

At the CPSU Central Committee plenum Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted that in dwelling on certain problems he did not only intend to indicate existing difficulties. The main point is something else: Whatever sector of work you take, tremendous potentials, tremendous reserves for successful progress can be seen everywhere. But in order to utilize them, he noted, it is necessary to improve the standard of management in the broadest sense. These requirements apply fully to our republic's affairs too.

The complex new tasks in further developing our economy which must be resolved next year and in the 11th 5-Year Plan are making great demands on the work of planning organs, and above all the republic's Gosplan. Frankly, the speaker noted, we cannot yet be satisfied with the quality of planning work. As before, considerable disproportions are permitted in the development of individual sectors of the national economy and production plans are not completely in balance with the relevant resources. The strict combination of sectorial and territorial planning is not always observed. From year to year the sum total of industrial enterprises' plans differs considerably, as a rule, from the indicators in the republic's state plan. Planning organs are virtually reconciled to numerous violations of plan discipline. As everyone can see, there are many shortcomings, and they are very substantial. They must be resolutely and painstakingly eliminated, since we all have an interest in further increasing the role of Gosplan and improving its work style and methods.

Gosplan must adopt improved planning methods, insure unity and balance in the plans for the republic's social and economic development in all its sections and parts, display a state approach in resolving economic problems and resolutely oppose departmental and local tendencies. Here we must rely still more in our activity on the initiative of local organs and labor collectives and organize planning work better from above and from below. The main result of the whole range of work being carried out in the republic to improve planning must be the state plan for the Latvian SSR's economic and social development in the 11th 5-Year Plan.

At the CPSU Central Committee plenum Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted that the fundamental basis of the next 5-year plan is clear: In order to consistently improve the people's well-being it is necessary to implement the party's course of improving efficiency and quality with redoubled, with tripled energy. This instruction given by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev must be fundamental for the republic's Gosplan and for all party, soviet and economic organs.

An important means of improving planning and the entire economic mechanism is the system of measures envisaged by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions adopted last July.

This system, elaborated on the basis of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the provisions of the USSR Constitution, directs all management and planning activity toward achieving high end results and more fully satisfying growing public requirements. The restructuring of the economic mechanism is a major economic and political task. The implementation of this system of measures will be the main avenue of activity of all planning and economic organs in the next few years. We must insure that this work is carried out at every level of production. A high level of organization, the timely fulfillment of everything outlined in the resolutions, the search for existing reserves, bringing them into play--this is the guarantee of our future successes in economic building.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed, all this is closely connected with further strengthening discipline at all levels and in all areas of work. He noted that the tasks facing us require stronger, tougher control over the fulfilment of plan targets and decisions adopted. Otherwise every year we will be forced to return to the same old questions. We have recently talked a great deal about the need to strengthen plan discipline in the republic and have adopted a whole series of quite good decisions on this score, including on accelerating the introduction of Rostovskaya Oblast's experience. However, as yet there have been no particularly noteworthy changes for the better. Many ministries, departments, associations and enterprises, construction organizations, kolkhozes and sovkhozes are still not coping with plan targets.

The plan for the first 11 months of this year for the sale of industrial products was not fulfilled by 63 enterprises. Among them are the Riga electrical machine-building and freightcar-building plants, the RAF minibus plant, the Valmiyera glass fiber and firefighting equipment plants and others.

What is wrong? The main reason for the poor work by laggard enterprises lies in the low standard of leadership, the weakness of the leadership cadres, their lack of a high sense of responsibility for the task entrusted them and for strict observance of state plan discipline. Of course, it must also be taken into account that the fate of our plans depends largely on material and technical supply. We have already repeatedly criticized the republic's Gossnab (chairman: Comrade Yu.L. Proshkovich), which does not display the necessary initiative and enterprise in providing enterprises with raw and other materials and replenishment articles. We must no longer work like this, more rapid restructuring is necessary.

Our scientists--the Academy of Sciences and other scientific research organizations--must play a more active part in resolving urgent tasks facing Soviet Latvia's national economy. They still have a great deal to do to speed up scientific and technical progress and insure that scientific achievements are rapidly embodied not only in individual experiments and exhibition models but in thousands of new types of products and modern technological processes. We expect scientists to make substantiated recommendations and proposals to improve production efficiency and work quality, improve planning and economic management and improve the economic machinery in general. Ministries and departments and all enterprises must introduce all that is progressive and advanced more flexibly and energetically and make wider use of scientific achievements in all sectors of the national economy.

In party organizations of scientific institutions and technical and economic councils attached to party raykoms and gorkoms are called upon to enhance the responsibility of scientific collectives and every scientist for the quality of their labor, for the speediest introduction of scientific developments and for extending their sphere of application in the national economy.

The acceleration of the passage of new scientific ideas from the discovery stage to introduction into mass production requires a radical change in the style and methods employed in all our economic activity, a general intensification of the struggle against inertia, genuine respect for science and the ability and desire to take it into consideration.

The speaker then switched to questions of further improving organizational and mass political and ideological work in relation to current national economic plans whose main directions were clearly and precisely defined at the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum. All party work must be directed toward the all-round development of socialist competition for the achievement of high qualitative indicators and the struggle for the fulfillment of counterplans. We must put more energy into supporting and disseminating leading experience and the best work forms and methods contributing to improved labor productivity and must consistently intensify economy measures and make more rational use of material and financial resources. It is necessary to enhance the role of labor collectives in the struggle against violations of labor discipline, slovenliness and laxity. The need for a fundamental and immediate improvement in this work is indicated by the fact that in the first 6 months of this year losses of work time in the republic's industry increased in comparison with the same period last year. Gorkoms and Raykoms and primary party organizations must create a highly demanding atmosphere, a high degree of organization and a creative attitude toward work in all areas of the national economy and in each labor collective. The CPSU Central Committee requires us, all party and economic organs and all leaders, to constantly improve work style and methods on the basis of the party's fundamental guidelines, to strengthen labor and plan discipline, intensify--one might even say stiffen--control of the fulfillment of targets and adopted decisions and react promptly and keenly to manifestations of mismanagement and to violations of established plans and norms.

People's control organs must become much more actively involved in the general struggle to improve the standard of all our economic work, to intensify economy measures and thriftiness everywhere and to fulfill and overfulfill plan targets. This is all the more important since we are obliged to continue vigorous and purposeful work on the fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Party Leadership of People's Control Organs in the Latvian SSR."

It is generally known that the core of party work is work with cadres. We possess a large detachment of experienced and knowledgeable leaders, outstanding production organizers and skilled specialists able to work creatively with socialist elan and to promptly solve the set tasks. But there are also cadres of a different kind. It is no secret that some of our leaders are failing to insure the solution of tasks connected with improving production efficiency and work quality. There are various reasons for this.

Some working people fail to meet present-day requirements in terms of the level of competence and sense of duty and responsibility. Others suffer, as V.I. Lenin put it, from "faultless inertia," that is, at work they are not eager for action but are marking time, as it were, and are merely concerned lest something happen. True, we do not have that many of these good-for-nothing leaders. Nevertheless, they are having an adverse impact on the solution of the main task of the current and the 11th 5-Year Plan--improving production efficiency and work quality, especially at laggard enterprises.

In this area too we must act decisively and use measures quite different from persuasions and exhortations. Energetic, enterprising, creatively minded people must boldly be placed in various sectors of work to replace those who cannot cope with their tasks. Demands on discipline and order must be much higher today than yesterday. Here what we need is not only talk about discipline and calls for order, but above all painstaking day-to-day organizational work, work with people, strict control and irreproachably accurate monitoring of execution. Latvian CP Central Committee departments, gorkoms and raykoms and primary party organizations must resolutely improve the standard of all party organizational work, sharply increase the personal responsibility of every person, especially leaders, for the task entrusted to them and implement a flexible cadre policy.

In resolving the most complex and crucial tasks our party has always relied on the masses' high awareness and labor and political activeness, A.E. Voss stressed. The guarantee of all our victories and achievements lies in the people's boundless faith in the correctness and scientific basis of the party's policy and in the whole people's support for that policy. That is why all the republic party organization's ideological education work must now be focused on mobilizing the working people to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee plenum decisions and the targets for 1980 and the 5-year plan as a whole. It is the duty of party gorkoms and raykoms and primary party organizations to bring to the awareness of every communist and every person in the republic the profound meaning and crucial significance of the tasks set in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the targets of the state plan ratified by the USSR Supreme Soviet session. The mass propaganda and information media and oral political agitation must be used to insure wide publicity for competition, comparison of its results and the clear and convincing demonstration of patriotic initiatives and innovations by production frontrunners and innovators aimed at the successful fulfillment of the plans and socialist pledges of the republic's working people for 1980.

Speaking at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev particularly indicated that we should have less ostentation and bustle, less of what V.I. Lenin called "political prattle." Discussion with Soviet people should be frank, serious and reasoned. Party organizations and all ideological institutions must restructure all ideological education work in the light of the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work" and of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's instructions and recommendations. It is necessary to decisively increase the impact of this work on people's hearts and minds and always wage propaganda and agitation in such a way as to insure that it is specific and convincing and answers in a well-informed way the questions which concern people most.

The year 1980 is the year of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, the year of preparation for the next, the 26th, party congress. For us it is also the year of the 40th anniversary of the restoration of soviet power in Latvia and the year of elections to the republic's Supreme Soviet and local soviets. Party organizations must make wide use of the preparations for these noteworthy events to demonstrate the fundamental advantages of the socialist way of life, to propagandize the outstanding achievements to the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy, to intensify the patriotic and international education of our people and to increase their political and labor activeness. It is a matter of honor and a direct duty for party organizations, every communist and all working people in the republic to make 1980 a year of real shock, high-productivity labor to implement the party's plans and to meet the targets of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

The speaker said in conclusion: Report-and-election meetings have recently been held in the republic's party organizations, as they have all over the country. [paragraph continues]

They clearly demonstrated communists' unity and cohesion and displayed their active life stance and desire to prepare a worthy greeting for the forthcoming 26th party congresses with new labor successes. We regard this as the guarantee of our steady progress, the guarantee of new achievements and successes.

Permit me, comrades, to express the firm conviction that communists and all working people in Soviet Latvia, under the leadership of party organizations, will step up their efforts in the struggle to further strengthen our motherland's economic might and mark the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan with new achievements in all areas of communist building.

NOVOYE VREMYA REVIEWS PONOMAREV BOOK ON LENINISM

LD162358 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1840 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

["Review: The Topicality of Lenin's Legacy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 16, TASS--The weekly NOVOYE VREMYA gives a high evaluation to the work entitled "V.I. Lenin and the World Revolutionary Process," by Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which has just been published in English in Moscow. Reviewer Timur Timofeyev, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences writes that this collection will certainly attract the attention of the widest circles of the international public. "The author of the book convincingly disproves the reformist concepts of those who for many years have spoken and continue to speak repeatedly about the 'obsolescence' of the Leninist analysis of imperialism, who argue about some kind of 'transformation' of bourgeois society which allegedly leads to 'profound changes in its nature.' In the book the most important laws for the development of each of the three streams of the modern world revolutionary process are analysed. These are primarily the achievements of the peoples of socialist countries, who are expanding fruitful cooperation and joint action in various spheres of public life and successfully establishing a new civilization. They are also the struggle of working people in industrially developed capitalist countries against the policy of monopolies, for peace, democracy and genuine social progress. Last, we are witnessing the undeniable rise of the national liberation movements and the mass anti-imperialist demonstrations by the peoples of the developing countries. Meanwhile many young states, administering a rebuff to attempts at pressure and aggression by imperialism and striving to eliminate backwardness and to secure economic independence, are relying with increasing frequency on support from the socialist countries and turning to their experience. In the interaction of all progressive revolutionary forces of the present day, the reviewer continues, are founded the preconditions for the further increase in the results achieved by the world struggle of the working people, and the broadest masses of the people, for peace and social progress. An important place in the work of Boris Ponomarev is occupied by questions of intensifying the struggle of the working people, their organizations and the broadest social forces for peace and against the expansionist policy of the imperialist circles. In examining these problems, the author observes that successes in this struggle have been and will be one of the factors which favor the further unfurling both of antimonopolist movements in the citadels of imperialist struggle in the area of national liberation. The particular value of the book by Boris Ponomarev also rests in the fact that the author, possessing a broad outlook and profound encyclopedic knowledge, concentrates on the most important and topical problems of the development of the world revolutionary process, and wages a well-argued polemic with the old and 'new' bourgeois and reformist 'critics' of Marxist-Leninist teachings."

SHORTCOMINGS IN DEVELOPING URENGOY GAS DEPOSIT HIGHLIGHTED

LD291511 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 22 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[Part 1 of report by TYUMENSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent L. Kostylev and correspondent V. Noskov under the rubric "Letter From Urengoy": "The Difficult Gas of the Polar Regions"]

[Text] Novyy Urengoy, Tyumenskaya Oblast--At the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum Comrade L.I. Brezhnev indicated the need for even more resolute efforts to increase the rate of gas extraction, particularly in West Siberia. The fulfillment of this task depends largely on the accelerated opening up of the Urengoy gas condensate deposit--the biggest in the world.

The huge gas field in the polar regions of Tyumenskaya Oblast began to yield up its riches to people nearly 2 years ago. Today three installations for the comprehensive preparation of gas are in operation here. Some 100 million cubic meters of "blue fuel" flow daily along the two main pipelines from Urengoy to the industrial regions of the Urals and to the center of the country. Is this a great deal, or not enough?

"Unfortunately it is not enough," I. Nikonenko, director of the Urengoygazdobycha Association and USSR state prize winner, replies. "We should be providing twice as much gas as that by the end of this year. And at present we are underproducing gas to the extent of more than 20 million cubic meters every 24 hours in relation to the plan."

The program for opening up this unique gas field was elaborated and approved about 3 years ago. The responsibility for its implementation was entrusted to four union ministries: the Ministry of the Gas Industry, the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification and the Ministry of Transport Construction, which already had experience in this matter--the Medvezhye. As a result of the efforts of all the subcontractors the first installation for the comprehensive preparation of gas with a capacity of 10 billion cubic meters per year was constructed in only 4 months, instead of the norm of 2 years. Urengoy gas was on its way!

So the basic tactical task was resolved in a short space of time. Now efforts had to be focused on achieving the strategic goal: to continue ancillary construction work on the deposit without slackening the pace. However, after achieving the initial success those taking part in opening up the Urengoy suddenly started marking time. Above all, department leaders no longer had their former enthusiasm.

In 1978 only two comprehensive gas treatment installations were commissioned, instead of the three planned. The following year there was only one. The commissioning of very important projects is regularly postponed. The quality of work also leaves much to be desired.

"The Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises' construction workers have not completed a single installation according to plan," S. Pashin, chief of the Urengoygazdobycha Association production and dispatcher service, says. "They only fulfill the so-called startup minimum, assimilating a little over one-third of the resources allocated. It is difficult and unsafe to service such projects."

Yu. Strubtsov, administrator of the Urengoygazpromstroy Trust, sees the reason in the fact that the client has no clear idea of what must be constructed first: gas treatment installations or compressor stations on gas pipelines. [paragraph continues]

"At times we work like a fire brigade--we rush to wherever the 'fire' is," he said. "But when we get there, there is not only no fire, but not even any sparks yet."

A clear example is the Yegenetta compressor station. At the gasmen's request, the trust's construction workers focused their main efforts on constructing this station last year. Yet it seems that the station is not needed yet, as the client is in no hurry to fit it with a full set of equipment.

However, there are cases where there is complete agreement between the sides. For instance, the construction workers handed over the third comprehensive gas treatment installation in Urengoy 9 months late, and even then they left a large number of defects. But on accepting it the gas workers were not particularly keen. They too had not fulfilled their part of the work: Of the eight "clusters" of wells planned, they had only prepared one for operation. Nonetheless Deputy Ministers A. Gudz (Ministry of the Gas Industry) and S. Arakelyan (Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises) signed the deed of transfer and shook hands. Then they drew up a joint protocol on the defects, most of the points in which have not been fulfilled.

Seeing that the client was not very exacting, other ministries' construction workers also slackened the pace. The Ministry of Transport Construction delayed the creation of a construction industry base for its subdepartments laying roads in the gas field, which is completely covered with impassable marshes and bogs. Targets for the commissioning of wharves, production bases and supply bases have not been met. The 500-kilovolt power line from Surgut will not reach Urengoy this year as planned: The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification is not even planning to commission it this year. Because of the lack of a permanent power supply more than 20 small power stations have to be maintained here. Temporary lines hang everywhere like cobwebs.

Responsibility for all these failures and omissions rests above all with the client--the Ministry of the Gas Industry, which, as we have seen, does not display sufficient firmness in relations with subcontractors. Moreover the gas workers have enough concerns of their own: In the new year they have to almost treble the volume of drilling of operational wells. How are they preparing for this spurt?

Early in the present 5-year plan period specialists from the Ministry of the Gas Industry and the Tyumengazprom elaborated a program for building up the forces of the workers drilling in the northern depths. One of its first items was to create a specialized drilling production association in Urengoy in the first quarter of 1978. This was a correct, far-sighted step: Only a high-powered organization is capable of implementing the increasingly large tasks. But the ministry did not hurry to implement this decision, and the result was not slow in making itself felt.

Last year the Urengoy deep drilling expedition recorded a drilling short fall of 28,000 meters--one-third less than planned. The gas extraction workers received only 37 wells instead of 51. Then the Ministry of the Gas Industry finally remembered the decision taken nearly 4 years ago. The association was hurriedly created. Today there is a chief, a chief engineer and a few specialists. Nobody is prepared to say when the new organization will really be able to develop.

And that is not the only miscalculation permitted in opening up Urengoy by the sector staff. From the start, for instance, it was clear that in view of the scale of the operation here the drilling workers could not manage without a solid production base. But the base for the deep drilling expedition is calculated on the basis of an annual drilling rate of 40,000-50,000 meters of wells, while the plan for this year is nearly 150,000 meters. Shops for the repair of drilling equipment, pipes and turbine drills have still not been constructed, although their commissioning was planned for 2 years ago.

It cannot be said that ministry leaders are poorly acquainted with Urengoy's problems and only know about its needs by hearsay. M. Agapchev, deputy minister responsible for drilling, has come here several times, but as a rule only current issues were discussed at the conferences he participated in. Long-term questions were postponed "for later."

We visited several drilling sites in the polar gas field. We talked with foremen and workers and asked them about the reasons for the laggardness.

"A great deal of time is wasted in holdups," driller Yu. Seidov answered. "We often finish drilling in one 'cluster' before they have installed the rig at the next. Days, not hours, are wasted waiting."

"It is all true," S. Abolentsev, leader of a team of derrick installation workers, confirms. "The schedule for fitting out the wells is hardly ever fulfilled. Why? I think it is because of poor labor organization. And it can happen that a rig if ready and has to await the arrival of the drilling workers for a month. Surely that cannot be in order?"

Yes, we must say frankly that there is not much order in the work of the Urengoy drilling workers. In our view it would be useful for the gas workers to look at the experience of the Tyumen oilmen, who have organized effective competition among subcontractors on their oilfields on the "team relay" principle.

However, it has become clear that the drilling workers in the two related sectors work as if they were partitioned off by a soundproof fence and know practically nothing about each other's achievements.

This year and in the next 5-year plan the gas giant of the polar regions must provide the main increase in "blue fuel" in the country.

Urengoy's readiness to take on this difficult burden will depend largely on the successful resolution of not only production problems, but also social problems, of which there are also a great many here.

GEORGIAN AKTIV MEETING DISCUSSES ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

LD280959 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 13 Jan 80 pp 1, 2 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "Work in Leninist, Shock Fashion: From the Georgian SSR Party-Economic Aktiv Meetings"]

[Excerpts] A republic party-economic aktiv meeting was held on 12 January. Taking part in its work were members of the Georgian CP Central Committee, candidate members of the Central Committee, members of the Georgian CP Auditing Commission, party gorkom and raykom first secretaries, ministers and department leaders, leading industrial and agricultural workers, trade union and Komsomol workers, scientific and cultural figures.

The meeting was opened by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

G.V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, delivered a report entitled "The Results of the Georgian SSR's Economic and Social Development in 1979 and Tasks to Fulfill the National Economic Plan for Socioeconomic Development in 1980 and the 5-Year Plan as a Whole."

The following participated in the debate that developed on the report: N.S. Chitanava, first deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers; A.M. Moskalenko, secretary of the Abkhazskiy Obkom; G.Y. Chicogidze, second secretary of the Adzharskiy Obkom; G.I. Mardanov, chairman of the Yugo-Osetinskiy Oblispolkom; O.V. Kvilitaya, first deputy chairman of the Georgian Gosplan; T.V. Rostiashvili, a turner at Tbilisi's Dimitrov Aviation Plant; R.A. Dzhaparidze, chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Labor; G.A. Andronikashvili, chief of the Georgian CP Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services section; and G.I. Loladze, chief of the Samtrest Industrial Association.

Z.A. Pataridze, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers, addressed the meeting. Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze delivered a long speech at the party-economic aktiv meeting. The meeting participants adopted the 1980 socialist pledges of the Georgian SSR's working people. The party-economic aktiv meeting adopted a Georgian CP Central Committee appeal to workers, kolkhoz members, the people's intelligentsia and all Soviet Georgia's working people.

ARMENIAN MINISTER DISMISSED FOR 'SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS'

LD251647 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 17 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "In the Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade Gegam Oganesovich Vartanyan of his duties as Armenian minister of the construction materials industry for serious shortcomings in work.

MOLDAVIAN MINISTER OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS INDUSTRY REPLACED

LD251649 [Editorial Report LD] Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 17 January 1980 frontpages a Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium decree appointing "Comrade I.I. Demchenko to the post of Moldavian minister of the construction materials industry."

The same paper publishes on page 4 a "Chronicle" report stating that Vasiliy Ivanovich Akinfiyev has been released from that post "in connection with his transfer to other work."

RASHIDOV ATTENDS MEETING OF UZBEK PARTY AKTIV

LD290845 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 29 Jan 80 LD

[Summary] A meeting of the party and economic aktiv of Uzbekistan is meeting to discuss the work of labor collectives last year and the targets for this year. "Taking part in the work of the session is Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Central Committee."

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES FERTILIZER PLANT CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

LD240006 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev today congratulated all those involved in the construction of the complex which produces ammonia and nitrogen fertilizer at the (Stirol) Production Association in Gorlovka on their labor victory. They have completed the construction and have commissioned annual production capacities of 990,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer and 900,000 tons of ammonia.

The commissioning of this capacity, Comrade Brezhnev's greetings state is a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress on the development of the production of mineral fertilizers and will enable agriculture's demands for this product to be met more fully. Of great value is the fact that the technological lines for ammonia production were brought to capacity in a short time.

Your successes were possible because of the selfless labor of the collectives of many thousands of workers, engineers and technicians and because of the wide development of socialist competition, the introduction of industrial methods of construction, the application of frontranking technology of assembly, design and technological equipment, the introduction of the experience of innovators of production, and the purposeful political and organizational work of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev wished the collective good health and further successes in fulfilling the tasks of the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

BREZHNEV GREETINGS TO NIZHNIY TAGIL METALLURGICAL COMBINE

LD301820 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent greetings to the builders, erectors, metallurgists, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, and to all the participants in the reconstruction of the oxygen converter shop at the Vladimir Ilich Lenin metallurgical combine in Nizhniy Tagil. The greetings say:

Dear comrades: The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates you on a great labor victory, the successful completion of reconstruction of the oxygen converter shop at the Vladimir Ilich Lenin metallurgical combine in Nizhniy Tagil, and the increase of its capacity to 3 million tons of steel a year, or by almost twofold.

You have shown in practice the great possibilities you have for the more efficient increase of productive capacities. The reconstruction of the oxygen converter shop which has been carried out has made possible the saving of more than R15 million of capital investment as against building a fresh, considerably improving working conditions for steelmakers and raising their labor productivity by 20 percent.

Your achievement is the result of selfless and coordinated labor by the builders and metallurgists, the great organizational, political work of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, and the broad scale of socialist competition.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses the firm conviction that the collective of the Nizhniy Tagil metallurgical combine will do everything necessary for the speediest mastery of additional capacities, the successful implementation of socialist pledges made worthily to mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the tasks of the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

I wish you, dear comrades, sound health and new creative successes.